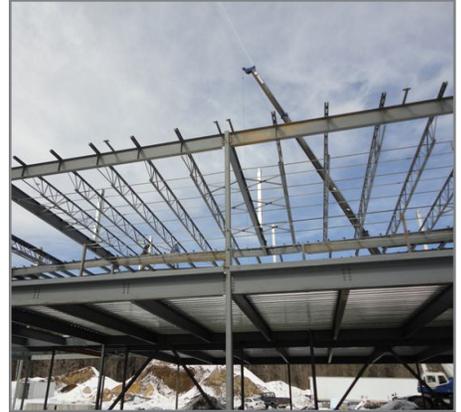


TOWN OF STOW

MASSACHUSETTS



2010 ANNUAL REPORT



This year's Annual Report front and back covers represent the progress of the Center Elementary School Building Project. After many years of discussion, the Town voted to move ahead in October 2009 with a major renovation and addition of Center School. On June 17, 2010, we had our official groundbreaking, with all of the Pompo and Center school children present, culminating in a presentation of a "check" from State Treasurer Tim Cahill for \$18 million, the State's share of the estimated \$36 million project. The construction started in earnest in July and by year-end, we were starting to see steel rise from the snow-covered ground. Construction is expected to be complete in summer of 2012, with the school opening to grades K-5 in September 2012.

Design/Layout by Amy Hastings. Photo credits:

FRONT: Left to Right from top: Kindergarten teacher Mr. Mainini & his classroom have a visit from Clerk of the Works Glenn Davis (photo by Greg Irvine); Center School Auditorium entrance will remain intact in the new school (photo by Paul Trunfio); The presentation of the State's "check" (photo by Trunfio); Photos of steel work by Glenn Davis; Bottom row: Principal Greg Irvine & Superintendent Michael Wood help students present their vision at the Groundbreaking; Aerial photo of the construction in fall (photo by Clint Parsons, with thanks to Don McPherson); kids at the Groundbreaking with their hardhats courtesy of our architects and project manager (photo by Trunfio).

BACK: Steel & construction photos by Davis; Groundbreaking photos by Trunfio. Architectural Rendering of New School by Symmes Maini McKee (SMMA).

Elementary School Building Committee members:

Ellen Sturgis & Amy Finkel Hastings, Co-chairs; Michael Wood, Gary Bernklow, Craig Martin, Charlie Kern, Stephen Quinn, Greg Irvine, Lynn Colletti; Associate members David Korn, Lisa D'Alessio. CMS Project Manager: Paul Griffin, Neil Joyce, Glenn Davis; Symmes Maini McKee Architects: Philip Poinelli, Lorraine Finnegan. PJ Stella Construction, Contractors.

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FEDERAL & STATE OFFICIALS

United States Senators

John F. Kerry
One Bowdoin Square, 10th Floor
Boston, MA 02114

Scott P. Brown
2400 JFK Federal Building
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203

United States Representative, Fifth District

Niki Tsongas
11 Kearney Square, 3rd Floor
Lowell, MA 01852

Governor of the Commonwealth

Deval Patrick
Office of the Governor
State House Room 360
Boston, MA 02133

Senator – Middlesex & Worcester

James Eldridge
State House, Room 213A
Boston, MA 02133

Representative -- Third Middlesex District

Kate Hogan
State House, Room 33
Boston, MA 02133

ELECTED TOWN OFFICERS

Listed alphabetically

Board of Assessors

Michael Dugas (2011)
Dominick Pugliese (2013), Chair
John E. Smith (2011)

Field Drivers

Selectmen

Board of Health

Mary E. Cormier (2011)
Sylvia Daley (2013)
Marcia B. Rising (2012), Chair

Moderator

David Walrath (2013))
Gary Horowitz, Deputy Moderator
Elizabeth Painter, Temporary
Moderator and Assistant Moderator

Nashoba Regional School District Committee

Brian P. Burke (2011)
Maureen Busch (2012)
Lynn Colletti (2013)

Planning Board

Ernest E. Dodd (2013), Chair
Leonard H. Golder (2011)
Stephen C. Quinn (2012)
Lori Clark (2014)
Kathleen A. Willis (2015)

Randall Library Trustees

Robert A. Aldape (2013)
Harold B. Donahue, Jr. (2012)
Jane Sproule Epstein (2012)
Amante Brooks Gaines (2013)
Carolyn C. Howe (2011)
John J. O'Keefe III (2013)
Timothy H. Reed (2011), Chair

Board of Selectmen

Stephen M. Dungan (2011)
Charles Kern (2013)
Thomas E. Ryan III (2012)
James H. Salvie (2013), Clerk
Laura Y. Spear (2012), Chair

Stow Housing Authority
W. Robert Dilling, Chair
John J. Kendra (2011)

Robert W. Larkin (2014)
Sean Osborne (2015)

APPOINTED TOWN OFFICERS

APPOINTMENTS BY SELECTMEN Individual Positions, Listed Alphabetically

**Assabet River Rail Trail Committee
Rep**

Donald B. Rising

Constables

Lawrence E. Hartnett (2011)
Robert A. Kirchman (2013)

Emergency Management Officer

Michael McLaughlin

Forest Fire Warden

Michael McLaughlin

Inspectors

Building Inspectors

Craig D. Martin, Building
Commissioner
Douglas Hyde, Local Inspector
Ray A. Renzoni, Local Inspector

Gas Inspectors

Ray A. Smith
Robert Smith, Deputy
Adam Sahlberg, Deputy

Plumbing Inspectors

Eric S. Sahlberg
Ray A. Smith, Deputy
Adam Sahlberg, Deputy

Wire Inspectors

Robert W. Norton
Michael A. Norton, Deputy
Charles Weeks, Deputy

**Metropolitan Area Planning Council
Representative (MAPC)**

Donna M. Jacobs (2011)

**Minuteman Advisory Group on
Interlocal Coordination (MAGIC)**

Donna M. Jacobs (2011)

Sealer of Weights & Measures

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**Selectmen's and Town
Administrator's Assistant**

Susan McLaughlin

**Stow Advisory Member of the
Hudson Light and Power Board**

Edward A. Brown

Street Numbers

Catherine A. Desmond

Superintendent of Streets

Michael E. Clayton
Scott Morse, Assistant Superintendent

Surveyor of Wood & Lumber

Vacant

Town Accountant

Julie Costello (2013)

Town Administrator

William J. Wrigley

Town Clerk

Linda E. Hathaway (2013)

Town Counsel

Jonathan D. Witten & Barbara Huggins
Huggins & Witten, LLC

Tree Warden

Bruce E. Fletcher

Treasurer-Collector

Pamela M. Landry (2011)

Veterans' Services Officer

Brian Stearns (3/10)

APPOINTMENTS BY SELECTMEN
Committees And Departments, Listed Alphabetically

Agricultural Commission

Julie Martin-Sullivan (2011)
Elizabeth C. Painter (2011)
Dwight P. Sipler (2012) Chair
Katherine C. Steege (2012)

Katherine Tarbi (2011)

**Assabet River Trail Committee, Stow
(dissolved 7/2010)**

Scott Arsenault
Ralph Fuller
Edward R. Perry, Jr.
Donald B. Rising
Kirk Teska

Council on Aging

Paul Chaisson
Ruth Delmonico
Kristen Donovan, Chair
Alice L. Olsen, Member Coordinator
Gus Stathis
Elizabeth Tobey
Newton Wesley, Vice Chair
Eleanor Beaudette, Associate
Brian Burke, Associate
Bill Byron, Associate
Nancy Chiasson, Associate
Kate Hogan, Associate
Josephine Langley, Associate
Alyson Toole, Executive Director
Sharon Funkhouser, Outreach
Coordinator
Suzanne Howley, Outreach Worker

Cable License Advisory Committee

Arnold R. Buckman (2013)
Lewis H. Halprin (2012) Chair
Robert C. Mong (2011)

Cemetery Trustees

William Clayton (2011)
Frederick J. Dodge, Jr. (2012)
Roy Dudley (2013) Chair
Stephen A. Gray, Associate
Chris Potter, Associate
Robert Gledhill, Superintendent

Cultural Council

Ann Deluty (3/2012) Chair
Anne C. Draudt (8/2012)
Phyllis Fitzsimmons-Luce (12/2012)
Catherine J. Hammill (2/2010)
Donnalisa Johnson (12/2010)
Nancy Maldari (11/2011)
Patricia Mullin (7/2013)
Dorothy G. Sonnichsen (12/2010)
Helen Garabedian, Associate
Robert M. Glorioso, Associate
Elizabeth B. Stepp, Associate

Conservation Commission

Helen Castles (2013)
David W. Coppes (2013)
Ingeborg Heggemann-Clark (2013)
Rebecca G. Mattison (2012)
Douglas E. Moffat (2013)
Kathleen V. Sferra (2011) Chair

Fence Viewers

Selectmen

Fire / Rescue – Full-time

Michael McLaughlin, Chief
John Paul Benoit, Captain
Barry Evers, Lieutenant
Mark W. Guerin, Lieutenant
Michael Stevens
Gregory A. Vogel

Fire / Rescue –On-call

Kris Blakley
Gerry Byrne
James Byrne
Christopher Camelio
Richard Connelly
Sheila Crowley
Gage Cummings
Charles Dunnigan
Scott Dwinells
Jonathan Evers
Jeremy Fiorvanti
Carolyn Fisher
Jason Galofaro
Jonathan Gray
Tim Gray
James Kissane
Walter Latta
Christopher Lazuka
Kristin Clayton Lazuka
Matt Magazu
Scott Morse
Jonathan Murphy
Tim Neufell
Frank Patterson
Liana Pratt
James Ruggiero
Michael Scimeca
Suzanne Siewierski
Bob Smart
Larry Stafford
George Taylor
Michael Trioli
Nick Trioli
Keith Villa

Apprentice Firefighters

Erick Benoit
Shannon Eichorn
Mark Latta
Andrew Lenox
Jeffrey Lyons
George Nunez
Stephen Stille
Matthew Vickery

Honorary Firefighters

Steve Landry
Eddie Warren

Historical Commission

Daisy Dearborn (2012)
Wayne A. Fletcher (2011)
Leslie Kriebel (2011)
Dorothy Spaulding (2013)
Karen C. Gray, Associate
Lew Halprin, Associate & Treasurer
Joseph J. Mishley, Associate

Lake Boon Commission

Cindy J. Curley (2011)
Lee Heron (2013)
Conray Wharff, Hudson, Chair

**Local Access Cable Advisory
Committee**

Stephen M. Dungan
Chris Funkhouser (2012)
Robert M. Glorioso (2012)
Leonard H. Golder (2012)
Lisa R. Lavina (2012)
Anne VanTine, Coordinator

Master Plan Committee

Stephen Dungan - Selectmen
Karen Kelleher – At Large
Charlie Kern, Finance
Rebecca G. Mattison – Conservation
Roy W. Miller – At Large
Marcia B. Rising – Bd. of Health; Chair
Richard Rollins – Finance

Kathleen Willis – Planning Board
Donna Jacobs, Associate
Greg Jones, Associate

Municipal Affordable Housing Trust

Michael Kopczynski (2011) Chair
Stephen Dungan
Donna Jacobs (2012)
Constantine Papanastassiou (2011)
Cynthia Perkins (2010)

Open Space Committee

Vincent J. Antil, Chair
Eve K. Donahue
Jean H. Lynch
William H. Maxfield
Brian Mulcahy
Christopher B. Rodstrom
Kathleen V. Sferra
Robert T. Wilber

Police Officers –Full-time

Mark H. Trefry, Chief
William L. Bosworth, Sgt.
Ralph Marino, Sgt.
Timothy J. Lima, Sgt.
Steven B. Sturtevant, Detective
Sean M. Collins
David J. Goguen
Thomas Maskalenko (1-11/10)
Gary P. Murphy
Robert Nelson
Michael J. Sallese, Detective
Darren J. Thraen

Police Officers -- Special

Robert E. Blanton
Jonathan Butler
John Connors
John Fantasia
James F. Finneran
Lee Heron
Samantha Howard
Enrico F. Maldari
Sherry J. Morton-Pelley
Michael Smith

Police Officers -- Auxiliary

Darlene D. Trefry

Police Matrons/Prisoner Watch

Rachel R. Belanger
Deborah L. Richardson
Richard Tower
Darlene D. Trefry

Public Safety Dispatchers

Sherry J. Morton-Pelley, Supervisor (1-11/10)
Jonathan Butler
John Fantasia
Samantha Howard, Supervisor (12/10)
Darlene D. Trefry
Justine St. John – part-time

Recreation Commission

Tim Allaire
Robert Braceland
Michael Busch, Chair
John A. Sangermano
Josh Schiering
Laura Greenough, Director

Registrars of Voters

Jack Mileski (2012)
John D. O'Connell (2013)
Robert Walrath (2011)
Linda E. Hathaway, clerk ex-officio

SpringFest Organizing Committee

Pennie Cushing (2012)
Laura Folsom (2012)
Karen Kelleher (2011)
Murray Levine (2011)
Ellen Sturgis (2012)

Trustees, Hale High School Fund

Robert F. Derby
Wayne A. Fletcher
Ray S. Frost, Chair
Linda E. Hathaway
Jeffrey D. Smith

Trustees, Randall Relief Fund

Louise E. Peacock, (2012)
Jeffrey D. Smith (2011)
Dorothy G. Sonnichsen (2013)

Trustees, Randall Town Fund

Louise E. Peacock, (2012)
Jeffrey D. Smith (2011)
Dorothy G. Sonnichsen (2013)

Trustees, Town Farm Fund

Louise E. Peacock (2012)
Jeffrey D. Smith (2011)
Dorothy Sonnichsen (2013)

Veterans' Graves Committee

Michael Delos Santos
Jeffrey J. Lance, Chair
George A. Veracka

Zoning Board of Appeals

John Clayton, Jr. (2013)
Arthur Lowden, retired
Michele L. Shoemaker (2012).
Edmund C. Tarnuzzer (2013)
Charles A. Barney, Assoc. (2013)
William F. Byron, Jr., Assoc. (2015)
Andrew DeMore, Assoc. (2012)
Bruce Fletcher, Assoc. (2012)
Lee Heron, Assoc. (2014)
Ruth Kennedy Sudduth, Assoc. (2012)

APPOINTMENTS BY CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Listed alphabetically

Open Space & Recreation Plan Committee

William H. Maxfield
Douglas E. Moffat

Kathleen V. Sferra
Dwight P. Sipler
Robert T. Wilbur

APPOINTMENTS BY BOARD OF HEALTH

Listed alphabetically

Animal Control Officer

Susan G. Latham
Phyllis Tower, Assistant

Burial Agents

John Erb
Town Clerk

Health Agent

John P. Wallace

Inspector of Animals

Phyllis Tower
Susan Latham, Assistant

Medical Reserve Corp Executive Committee

Sharon Brownfield
Sharon Funkhouser
Rini Kester
Michael Matatia
Ross Perry, Chair
Sarah Robart
John Sangermano
John P. Wallace, Liaison

Public Health Nurse

Linda Cullen

School Health Committee

Sylvia Daley

APPOINTMENTS BY MODERATOR
Listed alphabetically

Ancient Documents Committee

Karen C. Gray (2013)
Lewis H. Halprin (2012)
Barbara P. Sipler (2015) Chair
Robert E. Walrath (2011)
Linda Hathaway, Town Clerk
William Byron, Associate
Ralph Fuller, Associate
Elizabeth Moseley, Associate
Dorothy Spaulding, Associate
Dorothy MacDonald, Geneologist

Peter McManus (2011)
Christopher Sarno (2013)
Patricia Heron, Associate
Richard Rollins, Associate
Eric Sears, Associate
Bruce Walbridge, Associate

Moderators

David Walrath
Gary L Horowitz, Deputy
Elizabeth C. Painter, Assistant

Finance Committee

Gary Bernklow (2011)
Richard Connelly (2012)
Ann Deluty (2013)

Minuteman School District Rep.

Alice B. Deluca (2011)

APPOINTMENTS BY PLANNING BOARD
Listed alphabetically

Light Pollution Study Committee

William J. Chiarchiaro
Gregory D. Troxel
Warrington R. Willis, Chair

Karen Kelleher
Lucille King, Business Owner
Donald G. McPherson, Chair
Barbara P. Sipler
Laura Spear
Warrington R. Willis

Lower Village Subcommittee

Bruce E. Fletcher

APPOINTMENT BY TOWN CLERK
Listed alphabetically

Assistant Town Clerk

Catherine A. Desmond

APPOINTMENTS BY TREASURER COLLECTOR
Listed alphabetically

Assistant Treasurer-Collector

Donna Kunst

Deputy Collector & Special Constable

Frederick J. Kelley, Jr.

JOINT APPOINTMENTS
Listed alphabetically

Capital Planning Committee

David P. Arsenault (2012) - Moderator
Kathleen K. Farrell (1-5/10) Selectmen
Stephen F. Jelinek (2011) – Moderator
Charles Kern (5/10 -2012) - Selectmen
Jean H. Lynch (2013) – Moderator
Edward R. Perry, Jr. (2012) – Finance

Community Preservation Committee

Michael Busch – Recreation
William Byron– Council on Aging
Dom Pugliese - Assessors
Kathleen V. Sferra – Conservation
Wayne Fletcher – Historical
Robert Larkin – Housing Authority
Peter McManus – Finance
Robert T. Wilber - Open Space, Chair
Kathleen Willis – Planning
Patricia Perry, Associate

**Elementary School Building
Committee**

(Joint appointment by Selectmen and
Stow reps of NRSD School Committee)

Gary M. Bernklow, Finance Committee
Lynn Colletti, Nashoba Regional School
Committee
Amy Finkle Hastings, At Large,
Co-chair
Charles Kern, Selectmen
Craig D. Martin, Building
Commissioner
Stephen C. Quinn, At Large
Ellen S. Sturgis, Co-chair
Gregory Irvine, Pompo/Center
Principal, Ex Officio
Michael L. Wood, NRSD
Superintendent, Ex Officio
Lisa D’Alessio, Associate

**Nashoba Regional School District
Audit Committee, Stow
Representative**

(Joint appointment by Finance
Committee. and Board of Selectmen)
Henry Hagopian, III

ADMINISTRATION

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Members of the Board of Selectmen are collectively the chief executive officer of the Town. As such, we are responsible for setting priorities and managing numerous administrative tasks. On the fiscal side, we work closely with the Town Administrator to ensure that our annual operating budget provides needed services in a cost-effective manner. Finally, we represent the Town's interests in various legislative and regulatory affairs.

The Board of Selectmen featured new faces in 2010. Kathleen Farrell and Ellen Sturgis completed their terms in May, and we thank them for their time and service. Jim Salvie and Charlie Kern were elected to the Board at that time. Long-time Selectman Tom Ruggiero resigned in July, and Tom Ryan joined the board in November after a special election. We thank Tom Ruggiero for his many years of leadership and service to Stow.

Throughout this year of change, the Selectmen focused on the following priorities, initially set in 2009 and supported throughout 2010:

- Obtain water for the Lower Village and Town center (highest priority)
- Increase the Town's affordable housing stock
- Implement the elementary school building project
- Implement the Minuteman Career and Technical High School building project
- Support economic development
- Determine the future use of the Pompositticut School building
- Develop a plan for a senior/community center
- Protect the Assabet River

We regularly tracked the Town's progress against these priorities. To that end, we completed many activities, including the following highlights:

- At a Special Town Meeting, the Town voted to proceed with amending a conservation restriction on a parcel of open space, owned by the Town and located off Deerfield Lane, in order to support a well. After four years of analysis, this parcel appears to be the most likely source of a public water supply for the Lower Village. The Town would not operate a well, but would lease the parcel to a well operator.
- The Selectmen and the Planning Board approved a Housing Production Plan, required under Massachusetts General Law 40B regulations to encourage affordable housing. In December, we submitted the plan to the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) for review and approval, and we look forward to having additional control over our affordable housing position.
- Ground breaking for the new elementary school building project occurred in June 2010. The year ended with construction at about 15% completion.
- Town Meeting supported a feasibility study for the Minuteman school building.
- Although moving toward a public water supply in the Lower Village was a big step in support of the Town's economic development, we also approved business and alcohol

licenses, retained a consistent tax rate for business and residential properties, welcomed new businesses in Town, and gave financial support to an existing conditions study for the Lower Village, which will serve as the underpinning for a Lower Village Master Plan being sponsored by the Planning Board.

- We created a Pompositticut Use Study Committee, which identified key potential uses for the building when it becomes available, including a senior/community center.
- We successfully appealed a decision by the Department of Environmental Protection and the Massachusetts Environmental Protection Agency for a NPDES permit modification to allow Marlborough to increase its discharge level of phosphorus into the Assabet River. Although the Phase 2 permits from DEP and Mass EPA were due in fall 2010, no requests for comments or permits have been issued.

Towards the end of the year, the senior/community center plan was identified as one of the key potential uses for the Pompositticut school building, so we combined those priorities into one. We also added as a new priority the provision of additional parking for the Town Building. As we enter 2011, we look forward to reviewing the recently adopted Master Plan and reassessing our priorities in light of the Master Plan recommendations.

We also spent considerable time addressing the following issues that were either emergent situations to which we had to react or unexpected opportunities to advance Town goals:

- The private water company for the Harvard Acres neighborhood, Assabet Water, filed for bankruptcy, and we worked with the Town Administrator and Representative Kate Hogan, Senator Jamie Eldridge, and various state agencies to develop a transition program for homeowners to private wells. Town Meeting supported the adoption of a low-cost loan program, which was authorized by emergency legislation passed in August and enacted by Town Meeting in November. The Town Administrator did a superb job managing implementation of the program. By the end of 2010, the majority of Harvard Acres homeowners had drilled private wells and disconnected from the Assabet Water system.
- We declared the “Blacksmith Shop” located on the Pompositticut School property to be municipal surplus property, and we accepted a bid to relocate it to Shelburne Farm.
- We supported proposed conditions for a superceding order, issued by the Massachusetts DEP, for drawing down Lake Boon as part of a comprehensive weed control program.
- We were actively involved in a variety of transportation activities, including the expansion of a shuttle service to the West Acton train station, obtaining funding and soliciting public input for the design of a portion of the Assabet River Rail Trail on Track Road, and planning for walkways along Route 117.
- We endorsed a hazard mitigation plan for the Town.
- We reviewed a Chapter 61 notification process and sponsored a test run for a Chapter 61 parcel that is going through foreclosure.
- We regretfully accepted the retirement of our police chief, Mark Trefry, and began the process of hiring a new police chief.
- We continued to act upon our goals transparently through our priorities chart.
- We strengthened our relationships with other Town Boards and departments through our Selectmen liaison assignments.

Although the Selectmen have taken on numerous activities to better the lives of Stow residents, we know we cannot act alone. Stow is blessed with an experienced and committed Town Administrator, Bill Wrigley, a dedicated group of Town employees, and many talented residents who step forward to volunteer for numerous boards and task forces, which perform much of the Town's work. The Selectmen appointed members to approximately 20 committees, and we recognize and thank all who volunteered their time and skills to the Town in 2010. We continue to post all available volunteer opportunities on the Town website, and we encourage residents to review it regularly to see how they can participate.

We would like to conclude by offering our most sincere appreciation to all of the residents who contributed their time and effort during the year. The Selectmen and Town employees could not do it without your help. Thanks to you, Stow is a great place to live.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Y. Spear, Chair
James H. Salvie, Clerk
Stephen M. Dungan
Charles Kern

Thomas E. Ryan III
Susan McLaughlin, Administrative Assistant
Phoebe Haberkorn, Office Assistant

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

The Stow Town Administrator, by Charter, serves as the Town's chief administrative officer. In this capacity, the Town Administrator manages the day-to-day operations of the Town, functions as its chief fiscal officer, chief procurement officer, chief personnel officer and chief contract negotiator. In addition, this position serves the Town as chairman of the dispatch communications administrative body, as the labor union grievance hearing appeal officer, the sexual harassment officer and the public records management officer. Throughout the year 2010, functioning in these various administrative positions, the Town Administrator managed several significant matters.

At the Annual Town Meeting in May 2010, as has been the case for several years, the Town Administrator recommended a balanced FY 2011 budget that contained expenditure amounts totaling considerably less than the upper limit prescribed by proposition two and one-half.

The FY 2011 municipal budget is a level services budget. More important, the FY 2011 municipal budget of 21,543,118 represents an actual decrease in total spending of 3.2% in comparison to FY 2010. It is important to note that the FY 2011 budget will produce a significant amount of unused levy capacity (i.e. excess taxing capacity). This is very good news for the taxpayer. Essentially, the Town's total tax appropriation for FY 2011 is approximately \$900,000 below the amount it is authorized to appropriate pursuant to the provisions of proposition two and one-half.

Within the total budget, spending for the general operating budget (excluding the schools) increased by 2.7% to \$5,235,405 in comparison to the FY 2010 budget. The Nashoba Regional School District assessment decreased by .2% to \$13,014,640; and the Minuteman Vocational Technical District assessment decreased by 24% to \$609,427. The Town's non-debt capital project budget decreased by 16% in FY 2011 to \$376,000.

The Town's non-capital raise and appropriate special articles budget decreased in FY 2011 by 7.5% to \$323,803 in comparison to FY 2010. Included in the FY 2011 non-capital raise and appropriate special articles budget are annually recurring items such as \$70,000 for the Reserve fund; \$25,000 for legal services and \$10,600 for audit services.

For FY 2011 the Town's annual debt payment increased by 1.7% to \$1,297,693. The annual debt payment budget funds the principal and interest due on bond notes issued to fund the Town's larger capital improvement projects. Currently on the debt schedule are annual debt payments for previous borrowings on capital projects such as the Hale School expansion, the Pompositticut and Center School improvements, the police station facility and the Town Building construction. Also, the Town regularly borrows to purchase some of the more expensive pieces in the rolling stock fleet such as fire engines and ambulances. Finally, the town periodically borrows money to acquire property for conservation and recreational purposes.

Of special note in 2010 relative to the debt schedule, is the fact that the first annual interest only debt payment on the Town's new Center School has come due and payable. The first annual principal and interest payment on this school bond is loaded onto the debt schedule in FY 2012. This significant capital project will have a substantial impact on the Town's annual debt payment during the next 25 years. The Town will benefit from approximately 50% state reimbursement on the total project costs, thus reducing the principal amount bonded long term by the amount reimbursed.

The FY 2011 budget appropriates and transfers \$50,000 from Free Cash to the Stabilization Fund, in a continuing effort to increase the amount of the Town's stored assets. Also, \$200,000 in Free Cash has been provided in FY 2011 to fund a number of non-bonded capital improvement projects. The same total amount of Free Cash was appropriated for the same two purposes in FY 2010.

The Town's Free Cash account is currently certified at \$778,703. This represents an increase of 29% above the amount of Free Cash certified by DOR last year at \$604,198. The Town's Stabilization Fund account balance, including the \$50,000 that was transferred at last May's Annual Town Meeting is \$650,000. Combined, the current Free Cash and Stabilization Fund balance of \$1,428,703 is higher than it has been the last nine years. We are fortunate to be able to continue to grow our stored asset accounts during these difficult economic times.

Looking forward to next year's FY 2012 budget, the Town is facing serious constraints that will require significant adjustments in order to balance the budget. In balancing the FY 2012 budget, it will be necessary to limit recommended total budget expenditures to approximately 4% above the current fiscal year as that is the projected percentage increase in total recurring revenues.

Driving this prediction is the fact that Stow possesses several structural revenue impediments that make it increasingly more difficult to balance annual operating budgets.

Most importantly, the Town's tax base represents approximately 90 percent of the Town's total annual recurring budget revenues. More problematic, this primary recurring revenue source is providing an increasingly larger percentage of the Town's total revenues each year. By comparison, Stow's annual municipal state aid revenue, on average, represents approximately only 3 percent of the Town's total annual revenues. And there is little expectation that this small percentage will increase in the foreseeable future. On the contrary, for FY 2011, Stow's municipal state aid has been cut by 3.5% and we can expect additional cuts by the state in local aid in FY 2012.

The Town's annual local receipts revenues represent approximately 7% of the Town's total revenues. The Town's local receipts revenues have declined each of the last two years; however, there are indications that the local receipts revenues will level off in FY 2012.

It is a distressing fact that a disproportionately high 90% of the Town's recurring revenues come from taxation. This distressing fact is exacerbated by the fact that the tax base is almost completely undiversified. Approximately 92% of the Town's tax base is residential. Ten years ago, residential taxes represented 89% of the total tax base; so the trend line is negative. Further, through various governmental tax reduction programs, approximately 50 percent of the Town's total taxable property is either exempted from taxation or is abated to a significantly reduced rate.

The combined effect of these factors is that the Town suffers from a limited revenue base consisting primarily of property tax revenues and this tax base is essentially undiversified. Stow residential taxpayers receive negligible revenue relief from the contributions generated by the commercial, industrial and personal property taxpayers. And there is no indication that there will be any meaningful future growth in commercial or industrial taxes.

Throughout several months during 2010, the Town Administrator worked closely with other Town officials, as well as many state agencies and elected officials, in an organized effort to assist 175 Harvard Acres residents in disconnecting from the Assabet Water Company water system. As a major part of this effort, the voters approved accepting a 1 million dollar 0% loan from the state Water Pollution Abatement Trust. The Town is utilizing this money to provide 2% interest loans to Harvard Acres residents for the purpose of drilling individual wells. All 175 Harvard Acres residents will need to be disconnected from Assabet Water Company by March 15, 2011, when a federal bankruptcy judge expects to shut down the Company's water system.

Beyond performing functions as the Chief Fiscal Officer, the Town Administrator is directly responsible for directing and managing the Town's legal matters. As it relates to litigation in 2011, there are number of on-going administrative cases. A few lawsuits relate to various ZBA and Planning Board decisions that have been challenged by permit applicants. At the moment there are no significant claims against the Town that expose us to substantial monetary loss.

In August 2010, based on a financial stability credit analysis, the Town was notified by Standard & Poor's Ratings Services that they had reaffirmed our previous year's rating upgrade to AA. The credit upgrade resulted from our discussions with Standard and Poor's analysts and the submission of financial documents and proof that Stow consistently applied financial management best practices. Given the troubling economic climate, this upgrade is significant and timely. The Town will save an appreciable amount of interest costs on our major capital borrowing for such projects as the Center School.

As a regular course of business, the Town Administrator performs a number of management functions relative to fulfilling the responsibilities associated with maintaining a close and productive working relationship with our fire, police, clerical and dispatch unions. For the last two decades, without exception, the Town's four labor unions and Town management have successfully negotiated and abided by all employee labor agreements without ever reaching an impasse or filing for arbitration. This cooperative track record is a tribute to both the Town's union employees and Town management.

Beyond serving the Town's interests and needs by attending to specific management issues such as the matters detailed above, the Town Administrator is generally engaged in regularly attending to matters associated with the day-to-day operations of the Town. In performing these duties, the Town Administrator is regularly in direct contact with most departmental staff and many Town board and committee members. In addition, the Town Administrator frequently works directly with local, state and federal agencies and officials, the public, and various private groups and individuals.

Respectfully submitted,

William Wrigley
Town Administrator

Susan McLaughlin, Administrative Assistant
Phoebe Haberkorn, Office Assistant

PLANNING BOARD

A five-member elected board with one appointed associate voting member, the Planning Board has specific statutory requirements. The Board reviews and approves the division of land under the State Subdivision Control Law (MGL c. 41) and the Stow Subdivision Rules and Regulations; serves as a special permit granting authority under the State Zoning Act and the Stow Zoning Bylaw; guides the process of Zoning Bylaw amendments under the State Zoning Act (MGL c. 40A); and adopts a Master Plan that is designed to provide a basis for decision making regarding the long-term physical development of the town (MGL c.41).

By statute, the Board is charged with the responsibility of protecting the health, safety and welfare of Stow's residents. Guided by the Massachusetts General Laws, the Stow Zoning Bylaw, the 2010 Stow Master Plan, and citizens' comments and concerns, the Board strives to preserve and enhance the integrity of Stow's character through the use of these regulatory tools, while safeguarding property owners' rights. We recommend and specify changes to

development proposals to achieve these goals. Board members and staff strive to work with both applicants and residents to help shape projects so as to positively affect the impact to the community.

The Planning Department completes the Commonwealth Capital Application on an annual basis. The Commonwealth Capital Policy is a program for promoting better land use choices. Commonwealth Capital endorses planning and zoning measures that are consistent with the Commonwealth's Sustainable Development Principles and encourages municipalities to implement these measures by using state funding as an incentive. Scores from the Commonwealth Capital Application are part of the evaluation process for each grant or loan program.

The Planning Department also tracks building permits for affordable housing units and submits the necessary documents to the Department of Housing and Community Development for certification.

The Planning Department provides GIS mapping services to various town boards and committees.

Organization

At the annual election, Kathleen Willis was elected to a 5-year term. Since she previously served as the Planning Board Chairman, we were happy that voters chose to elect her for another 5-year term.

Following the election, the Board elected Steve Quinn to serve as Chairman, and Lori Clark as Vice Chairman. Brian Martinson was appointed as the Voting Associate Member. The Associate Member's voting power is limited to Special Permit applications, in the case of absence, inability to act, or conflict of interest on the part of any member of the Planning Board or in the event of a vacancy on the Board. Malcolm FitzPatrick, and Donna Jacobs were appointed as non-voting Associate Members. Steve Quinn and Karen Kelleher were designated to endorse ANR Plans (Subdivision Approval Not Required). The Board appointed representatives to various Committees:

Community Preservation Committee: Kathleen Willis

Master Plan Committee: Kathleen Willis

Elementary School Building Committee: Stephen Quinn

Liaison to Zoning Board of Appeals: Ernie Dodd

Liaison to the Board of Health: Kathleen Willis

Liaison to the Conservation Commission: Lori Clark

Pedestrian Walkway Planning Committee: Lori Clark

Lower Village Sub-Committee: Lori Clark

Chapter 61 Study Evaluation Group: Karen Kelleher, Planning Coordinator

Liaison to Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAGIC): Donna Jacobs

Development Activity

The Board received a Petition for Special Permit/Site Plan for approval of four (4) hammerhead lots, as shown on a Plan entitled Highgrove Estates. This Petition is pending a Public Hearing.

The Board approved (2) Hammerhead Lot Special Permits

- Hudson Road, Hammerhead Lot Special Permits
- Randall Road, Hammerhead Lot Special Permits

The Board approved (1) Site Plan for the new Elementary School Building.

- Elementary School Building

The Board approved (1) one ANR Plan (Approval not Required under the Subdivision Control Law):

- Wheeler Road, creating one new lot

The Board voted not to endorse one (1) ANR Plan as it did not conform to the Subdivision Control Laws.

- Property off Barton Road

The Board voted to deny a request for a waiver for a setback requirement at the Derby Woods Subdivision (Sylvan Drive).

The Board approved modifications to the Ridgewood AAN Special Permit:

- To allow the requirement for affordable housing units to be consistent with the Inclusion of Affordable Housing Bylaw.
- Acknowledgment of the State's Permit Extension Act, created by Section 173 of Chapter 240 of the acts of 2010, which allows an additional extension to July 24, 2013 (two years beyond the extension to July 24, 2011, previously granted by the Board.

With the assistance of the Board's Consulting Engineer, Susan C. Sullivan, P. E., the Board reviewed plans and monitored ongoing construction of five (5) subdivisions and two (2) Special Permits:

- Linear Retail – Stow Shopping Center
- Derby Woods I&II (Sylvan Drive and Dunster Drive extension), a 33-lot subdivision, located off of Harvard Road
- Butternut Farm Golf Course
- Arbor Glen Active Adult Neighborhood
- RidgeWood at Stow Active Adult Neighborhood
- Taylor Road Planned Conservation Development

Zoning By-laws

One (1) Zoning Bylaw amendment was brought forth to Town Meeting: To amend the Floodplain/Wetlands Overlay District to reflect Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) 2010 Countrywide mapping format, as required by FEMA, to ensure Stow's continued participation in the National Flood Insurance Program. The proposal was adopted at the May 2010 Annual Town meeting and approved by the Attorney General.

Master Plan

The Board reviewed and commented on a draft master plan and adopted the final plan, which will serve as a basis for decision-making regarding the long-term physical development of the town.

Housing Production Plan –

The Board voted to accept the Housing Production Plan and looks forward to working with the Stow Municipal Affordable Housing Trust on the implementation plan to provide the necessary tools to provide diversity in Stow’s housing stock in a manner that is compatible with the town’s historic architectural traditions.

Appeals

One (1) five (5) lot Subdivision Plan (River Hill Estates off of Barton Road), approved in 2007, is under appeal pending a decision from Appeals Court.

Enforcement Issues – The Board continued to work with the Building Commissioner, property owners and developers on enforcement issues related to compliance with signage, lighting and Special Permit Conditions.

Fees Collected

Fees collected in 2010 in the amount of \$2,497.40 offset expenses incurred for processing applications and for miscellaneous copies. The Applicant is responsible for plan review and inspection fees.

Work Plan

The Board’s work plan continues to include efforts to maintain Stow’s rural character, and has taken large steps in its planning goals for Lower Village. In addition, they have made great strides with walkway/sidewalk planning, and continue ongoing assessments of the Town’s future land needs, updating Rules and Regulations and the Zoning Bylaw, light pollution/signage issues, and affordable housing. The Board also continues to keep abreast of proposed changes to Massachusetts General Law such as proposed Community Land Use Reform and Partnership Act, as well as grants and technical assistance opportunities.

Lower Village – The Board retained the services of Coler & Colantonio, Inc. to establish an existing conditions base plan and to evaluate the previously proposed traffic alternatives of the 2006 Lower Village Traffic Study, prepared by Fay, Spofford and Thorndike. Phase I of this project is to prepare an existing conditions survey plan showing topography, right-of-way, monuments, pavement, curb cuts, utility covers, walks, walls, fences, curbing trees, building corners, entrance elevations, road cross-sections, and utilities. The Board will seek additional funding in 2011 to move forward with Phase II, to evaluate the preferred traffic alternatives outlined in the 2006 Lower Village Traffic Study, identify constraints and opportunities, and propose recommendations.

The Lower Village Sub-Committee continued its efforts towards implementation of a standard streetscape in the Lower Village and is now preparing a final report, including a recommended action plan to implement its vision: “Our goal is to create an identity for our historic Lower

village, consistent with the rural character of Stow. By addressing visual, functional and safety issues through a public-private partnership, we seek to enhance the Lower Village as the vital business center of our community.”

In 2010 the Lower Village Sub-Committee:

- Performed an informal traffic speed survey
- Established a design for permanent traffic islands
- Established a Gateway sign design
- Updated the Standard Streetscape Specifications
- Sponsored the annual Spring Clean Up day
- Kept abreast of the Board of Selectmen’s efforts for a public water supply
- Began working on the Lower Village Common Improvement Plan
- Provided input to the Planning Board

Thanks to the Highway Department for completing the installation of walkways along Pompositticut Street to the Maynard town line. This will foster pedestrian traffic to the Lower Village.

Walkways - In 2010 the Walkway committee formulated a plan for a two-phase approach. They created an informational brochure, had two public forums to gather input and feedback from citizens, and wrote several newspaper articles. They hired and contracted with a local engineering firm to design walkways along Route 117 for Phase I. They were completed to the 75% level by year’s end. An inventory of the existing walkways in Stow was developed in preparation for Phase II prioritization, and with input from the community, further developed a prioritization scheme for future walkway projects.

Light Pollution - The Light Pollution Sub-Committee continued working with developers, property owners, the Planning Board and Building Commissioner to ensure compliance with the lighting bylaw adopted in 2007. The Sub-Committee continues to urge residents and business owners to confine their lighting to their property by re-aiming or replacing fixtures to achieve better lighting that is not bothersome to others.

In addition, the Board created a FAQ outlining key aspects of the lighting bylaw as well as the Town’s sign bylaw to help residents and businesses comply with the Bylaws.

Zoning and Land Use Considerations – The Board continues to explore new zoning and land use regulations such as design guidelines, Form Based Zoning, Stretch Code, and Affordable Assisted Living Facilities.

Zoning Maps -The Planning Board requested mapping services of Aerial Survey and Photo, Inc. to digitize Wetlands/Floodplain Overlay District, as defined by IEP (Interdisciplinary Environmental Planning) Wetlands Map; the Assabet River Technical Report; the Flood Plain - Plan and Profile Heath Hen Meadow Brook study; and the Middlesex County Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM).

Water Resource Monitoring- The Board contracted the services of Jay Billings of Northeast Geoscience Inc. (NGI) to advise the Planning Board on potential requirements for Water Quality Monitoring at Golf Courses. They reviewed chemical application reports from existing golf courses and plan to make recommendations to the Board on appropriate ways to move forward.

Regional Planning

The Board also continues to keep abreast of regional activities. Board members and staff frequently attend meetings of the Massachusetts Association of Planning Directors, Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC), and Minute Man Advisory Group on Interlocal Coordination (MAGIC), a sub-group of MAPC, serving the communities of Acton, Bedford, Bolton, Boxborough, Carlisle, Concord, Hudson, Lexington, Lincoln, Littleton, Maynard, Stow and Sudbury.

Thanks

None of the planning efforts would be possible without the enormous contributions by Stow residents, who serve as volunteers on the boards and committees and Town staff. It is a pleasure to continue working with all of you.

The Board extends a special thanks to:

Our very capable professional consultants - Susan Sullivan of Places Associates, Inc. and Town Counsel, Jon Witten, of Daley and Witten, LLC.

The Highway Department for their cooperation in implementing our Lower Village Planning efforts.

Lower Village Sub-Committee - Chairman Don McPherson, Bruce Fletcher, Karen Kelleher, Barbara Sipler, Laura Spear, Russ Willis, Phil Moseley, Brian Martinson and Lori Clark.

Light Pollution Sub-Committee - Chairman Russ Willis, Bill Chiarchiaro, Greg Troxel, Victoria Fletcher and Margaret Tucker.

Pedestrian Walkway Planning Sub-Committee – Chairman Kristina Wile, Martha Monroe, Lori Clark, Joelle Spear, James Salvie and Associate Members Daisy Dearborn and Phyllis Fitzsimmons.

The Master Plan Committee – Chairman Marcia Rising, Karen Kelleher, Kathleen Willis, Charles Kern, Stephen Dungan, Rebecca Mattison, and Roy Miller. Consultant Michelle Ciccolo and Nancy West of The Ciccolo Group. Also, Planning Board staff, Karen Kelleher and Kristen Domurad provided a great amount of support to the Master Plan Committee. Kristen Domurad's outstanding mapping skills were invaluable to the Committee.

The Stow Municipal Housing Trust – Chairman, Donna Jacobs, Mike Kopczynski, Quince Papanastassiou, Trish Settles, Cynthia Perkins, and Laura Spear. Consultant Karen Sunnaborg of Karen Sunnaborg Consulting.

As can be seen by this report, the Board had another busy year, but this amount of work would never have been possible without the tireless and outstanding efforts of Karen Kelleher, and Kristen Domurad, who not only work diligently for the Board, but also for other Town Boards and Committees and the general public with whom they interact on a daily basis.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Quinn, Chairman
Lori Clark, Vice Chair
Kathleen A. Willis
Ernest E. Dodd
Leonard H. Golder
Brian Martinson, Voting Associate Member

Malcolm FitzPatrick, Associate Member
Donna M. Jacobs, Associate Member

Karen Kelleher, Planning Coordinator
Kristen Domurad, Administrative Assistant

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Conservation Commission consists of seven members appointed by the Board of Selectmen to administer and enforce both the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and the Town of Stow Wetlands Protection Bylaw and associated regulations. Areas subject to protection under these regulations include wetlands, rivers, streams, other water bodies and their banks, and flood plains, among others. In addition to these resource areas, the Commission must review and if appropriate, stipulate conditions under which proposed activities within 100 feet of the resource or 200 feet of ponds and streams must be conducted. The Commission also works to manage over 1,200 acres of conservation land throughout the community and a network of trails on these lands, and to protect additional high priority lands. Trail maps and permit applications are available in the Conservation Commission office, which is located in the Town Building.

Currently, the Commission consists of seven members with varied backgrounds and a common interest in environmental issues. In addition, we have the strong support of several associate members who work on special projects, such as wetland delineation, drainage issues, trail mapping, forestry management, community gardens and open space planning. Additional support comes from our full-time Conservation Coordinator, part-time Secretary and part-time Conservation Land Steward.

Conservation Land Updates

Land Preservation: Pulte Homes of New England, LLC, transferred Title to Open Space Parcel B, a 20-acre parcel of land currently in agriculture located at Arbor Glen on Hudson Road, to the Town of Stow. The Conservation Commission will continue to manage the parcel for agriculture.

Land Maintenance: Permits were issued for guided walks and educational activities featured at several of our conservation properties. The walks are sponsored by the Stow Conservation Trust and serve to familiarize participants with the trails and natural resources unique to the area.

There were numerous instances of trees down across trails after snow and high winds; the Steward removed the obstructions and potential hazards from Marble Hill, Gardner Hill, Heath

Hen Meadow Brook Woodland and Flagg Hill Conservation Area. Seasonally, trail entrances are mowed at Wheeler Road and Gates Lane for improved access to Spindle Hill; Orchard View trail connection; Lanes End; Heritage Lane; and at Pompositticut School for Marble Hill. The meadow located on the Woodhead parcel of Flagg Hill is mowed annually to enhance the habitat for Eastern Bluebirds and other open meadow species of birds and animals.

You can help preserve the beauty of our lands by reporting acts of vandalism, regulation violations, downed limbs or trees, and any other potential hazards or concerns to the Conservation Commission at 978-897-8615. Thank you in advance for your help and cooperation.

Community Gardens: In 2010 the Stow Community Garden grew to eighty-three garden plots. At the request of some of our gardeners a field was prepared containing twenty-six plots for perennial gardens. These plots can be used to grow perennial and annual vegetables, flowers, herbs and non-invasive berries. The care and maintenance of these plots are the responsibility of the individual gardeners. Seventeen of these plots were rented by returning gardeners in addition to their annual plots. A third pitcher pump well was added to provide water for the new field.

Most of the gardeners who rented annual plots returned to their same plots this year and new gardeners joined us. The annual field was plowed and harrowed this spring in preparation for planting and rent stayed the same. Four 30x50 plots were grown for the Stow Food Pantry and donations were given by other gardeners. In 2011 three 30'x50' plots and two 30'x25' plots will be added and are already spoken for.

Public Hearings

Hearings for residential construction, wetland delineations/resources and restoration projects as a result of enforcement action continued at a brisk pace, including Harvard Acres well permits, Lake Boon Drawdown and Herbicide Treatments for weed management, review of plans for the Center School Project, a subdivision off West Acton Road, and several small applications for home improvements and septic repair. Commission members continued their participation in several town-wide planning projects, including updating of the Master Plan, Center/Hale School expansion, Assabet River Sediment & Dam Removal Study, Open Space Committee and Community Preservation Committee.

The Commission held 42 public hearings for projects during the year. A total of \$3,522 was generated for the Town by these hearings and applications. License Agreements, Community Garden fees, Regulations for Wetland Protection Bylaw, Trail Guides, copy fees and donations also generated \$1,170.

Cooperative Efforts and Long Range Planning

Work plan priorities for the coming year include but are not limited to revisions to the Wetland Protection Regulations, baseline monitoring for conservation restrictions, vernal pool education and invasive species identification. The commission also works collaboratively with local conservation organizations including the Stow Conservation Trust, and Sudbury Valley Trustees on both land protection and land management issues.

The Conservation Commission has assisted the Stow Conservation Trust in drafting a conservation restriction for the open space parcel of the Derby Woods subdivision off Harvard Road and for the Corzine Woodlands. Once approved and accepted by the Board of Selectmen and the Secretary of Environmental Affairs, the Conservation Commission will accept title of the open space at Derby Woods. The Commission is also currently involved in working with the Board of Selectmen to advance an effort to place a water supply well on a conservation land parcel off Deerfield Lane and assisting with securing the necessary approvals to allow this to happen.

In 2009, the Commission joined the SuAsCo Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (CISMA), a group of like-minded conservation professionals and volunteers to be part of collaboration in the management of invasive species control issues. By joining this cooperative effort, Stow will have access to a network of expertise and labor as well as funding that is obtained by CISMA for regional invasive species control efforts.

Administration

Becky Mattison is the liaison to the Master Plan Committee and Kathy Sferra is the Commission's liaison to the Community Preservation Committee, and Open Space Committee.

In 2009 the Selectmen appointed Ingeborg Hegemann Clark and Rebecca Mattison as Stow's representatives on the Study Coordination Team for the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers Assabet River Sediment and Dam Removal Feasibility Study, and assisted in submitting comments to the Army Corps on behalf of the Town.

Bruce Trefry is the Commission's Land Steward and the Parcel Steward for Flagg Hill Conservation Area and Heath Hen Meadow Brook Woodland. Bruce provides overall management of the town's conservation lands and does an outstanding job for the Commission.

Joyce Bunce is the Steward for the community gardens at the Captain Sargent Conservation Area on Tuttle Lane. She is also a member of the Stow Garden Club. Joyce has done a wonderful job coordinating participants, laying out plots, educating the gardeners on organic farming and providing fresh vegetables to the Stow Food Pantry.

Maureen Trunfio is the part-time secretary assisting with daily operations of the Conservation Commission office and attends to the Commission's needs when called upon. Maureen is in the process of getting her certification in Fundamentals for Conservation Commissioners from MACC.

Pat Perry's consistent management of daily operations is outstanding. We all thank Pat for her efforts. Thanks to her hard work, the Commission has maintained and improved its high standard of professionalism in its interactions with town residents, other town boards and commissions, and state regulatory and enforcement bodies. As we add more conservation land to that already under management by the Commission, and as development activity in Stow continues at a steady pace, it becomes more and more important to coordinate the activities of the Commission with other town boards and effectively maintain required documentation. Pat

continues to do an outstanding job in her role of coordinating daily operations and the successes of the Conservation Commission are due in large part to her dedication and effort.

The Commission benefits from working with town departments, land trusts, associate members and the community. Your input and assistance are invaluable to the Commission. **THANK YOU!**

If you have an interest, expertise or experience in conservation or environmental protection and would like to be a member, an associate member or volunteer, please call the office at 897-8615 or attend a meeting. Meetings are generally held on the first and third Tuesday of every month.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Mattison, Chair
Kathy Sferra
Helen Castles, Vice Chair
Douglas Moffat
Ingeborg Hegemann Clark
David Coppes
Bruce Trefry, Associate

Dwight Sipler, Associate
Stewart Dalzell, Associate
Joyce Bunce, Associate

Patricia Perry, Coordinator
Maureen Trunfio, Secretary

BOARD OF HEALTH

As the local permitting authority responsible for the health and safety of Stow residents, the Board of Health continues its service to the Town by insuring that our water, sanitation, habitation, and environment continue to meet the high standards set by those early pioneers who recognized that good health practices create positive outcomes for people and the environment.

Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)

During 2010 we continued our work with the Medical Reserve Corps and Fire and Police Chiefs, on the Town's Emergency Planning Program. Money from Emergency Preparedness grants distributed by the Department of Homeland Security comes to the Town through the MRC to allow planning, purchase, and storage of materials necessary in case of a natural or manmade disaster. This year we also received Federal grant money to support our H1N1 "swine flu" clinics.

In November we held our regular seasonal flu clinic. This clinic is run as a drill to test our Emergency Dispensing Site plan under the direction of the Department of Homeland Security. The town receives funds to help produce the plan and run the drills. 316 people attended the clinic and received both H1N1 and regular flu in one inoculation. We wish to thank all of the MRC volunteers who stepped forward to help prepare for and run these clinics. We couldn't have done it without them and their willingness to donate their time and effort in helping this program run so well is much appreciated.

Public Health Nurse

In 2010 our public health nurse, Brooke James, resigned and our new nurse is Linda Cullen. Linda has stepped in to ably fill this position. Town residents can connect with Linda every Wednesday from 9 AM to 12 PM. Her office is located on the third floor of the town building. She provides home visits, follows up with communicable disease reporting, helps with the clinics that the Board runs, interfaces with the Council on Aging and offers immunizations to town employees as needed. We welcome Linda, who continues to provide a valuable and much needed service to the town. The Board appreciates the support it has received for this program from the residents of Stow.

Hazardous Waste and Recycling

The Board collaborated once again with Stow Boy Scout Troop 1 in the spring of 2010 to advertise the electronics collections they were organizing. We encouraged the Town Municipal Offices to recycle many old computers and parts out of the Town Building where they were stored, and donated money from the hazardous waste fund to the Boy Scouts for taking all of this old equipment. This worked well for us, as the intent of the program is to safely dispose of this material. We continue to offer battery and mercury thermometer collections during our daily office hours. Our hazardous waste collection day in October served 137 households and we intend to offer another collection day in 2011.

Loss of a Public Water Supply in Harvard Acres

2010 saw the Assabet Water Company announce it would cease operation. All of the homes in Harvard Acres were affected by this and the Board was faced with the monumental task of assuring that all of the homeowners would be able to install private wells on individual properties. We worked with the residents of Harvard Acres, the Building Inspector, the Town Administrator, the Department of Environmental Protection and many volunteers to create a plan that would enable this project to move forward in a very short time period. 188 homes were affected and each one required having a property plan, a well drilled, piping trenched, new electrical connections and comprehensive water testing done. The Town Administrator is responsible for a loan program that was created by the state and town to assist those homeowners who need some financial assistance in this endeavor. The program is almost complete and by March 15, 2011, every home will have its own water supply. This was a huge job and the Board of Health thanks everyone who stepped in to help us move this project to completion.

Mosquito Control

The Town of Stow continues to belong to the Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project to provide control of this pest, which is a carrier of such diseases as Equine Encephalitis and West Nile Virus. The Project is committed to an Integrated Mosquito Management Program, which utilizes a variety of control techniques and evaluation procedures. The first and most permanent method is called water management, source reduction or wetlands restoration. The second method is called larviciding and the third method is to attempt to control the adult mosquito by spraying on a **request-only** basis. The presence of adult mosquitoes is confirmed before any application is done. All control efforts are undertaken only after surveillance data has been collected and analyzed. This allows control decisions to be made based on the exact need that exists at each specific site. Environmental considerations are paramount when prescribing

various control techniques. The Project's goal is to provide effective and environmentally sound mosquito control, reducing mosquito annoyance and the potential for the transmission of mosquito-borne diseases.

Animal Control

The Animal Control Officer and the Animal Inspector continue to provide excellent coverage throughout the town with the ability to respond quickly to any situation. The following is a report of activity for the year 2010:

Dog Complaints 99	Cat Complaints 6	Wildlife Calls 53
Lost Dogs 46	Found Dogs 36	Cruelty/Neglect 2
Dead Animals on Roads 56	Lost Cats 25	Found Cats 26
Dogs Returned to Owners 16	Dogs Impounded 14	Livestock Complaints 10
		Other 82

Citations Issued		
Written Warnings 8		
\$25.00 Fines 10	\$50.00 Fines 3	

The following is the annual livestock count:

Cattle 42	Llamas 5	Goats 51	Pigeons 21	
Swine 2	Alpacas 9	Sheep 33		
Rabbits 36				
Equine 128	(Horses-102, Ponies -25, Donkey-1)			
Poultry 415	(Chickens- 355, Turkeys-2, Waterfowl- 33, Gamebirds- 25)			

Quarantines are as follows:

Dogs: 10 Day Quarantine	Cats: 10 Day Quarantine
4- Dog bite/scratch to another dog	6- Cat bite/ scratch to a person
10- Dog bite/scratch to a person	

Permitting & Revenues

Revenue of \$33,372.00 was remitted to the Town. The following is a list of permits issued:

Bed & Breakfast-4	Ice-2	Pools-2
Pet Shop-1	Septage Haulers-9	Title 5 Inspections-83
Installers-27	Camps-5	Wells-193
Food Service-68	Rubbish Haulers-5	Tobacco-5
Cider Mill-3	Stables-23	Dumpsters - 12
Disposal Works Construction Permits- 41		

The public is invited to visit our office in the Town Building to learn what information we have available on public health, the environment, hazardous materials, and recycling. As always, we encourage you to call or visit if you have any questions, problems, or concerns. We are open from 9AM to 5PM Monday through Friday and by phone at 978-897-4592. Don't forget to visit

us on the Town of Stow website. We post our meetings and information on special issues on this site. Visit us at www.stow-ma.gov.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia B. Rising, Chair
Betty Cormier
Sylvia Daley
Theora S. Cole, Administrative Assistant
Cynthia Colosi, Administrative Assistant

Lynn Fishman, Clerk
John P. Wallace, Health Agent
Susan Latham, Animal Control Officer
Phyllis Tower, Animal Inspector

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Board of Appeals had an unusual year with two applications for Chapter 40B Comprehensive Permit and two for amendment of previously granted Chapter 40B Permits. The first were filed by Stow Elderly Housing Corp. for Plantation II, 37 units of supportive housing, and for amendment of the Plantation I permit for the adjacent Plantation Apartments off Great Road. The hearings were opened in August and closed a month later. The Chapter 40B Permit and the amended Plantation I permit were granted in November after extensions for filing beyond the 40-day period required by law. The decisions are currently under appeal by an abutter.

The second Chapter 40B applications were filed by Stow Community Housing Corp. in late July for 30 family housing rental units, Pilot Grove II, off Warren Road and for amendment of the Pilot Grove I permit. Those hearings were closed in October and, with extensions, the decisions granting both permits were filed in December.

Other unusual business before the Board included four separate filings in March by the Stow Elementary School Building Committee for variances related to the Center-Pompo School construction project. All were granted.

- Hearings for Variance: 10 - all granted.
- Hearing for Special Permits: 7 - all granted
- Hearings for Chapter 40B Comprehensive Permits: 2 - both granted
- Hearings for Chapter 40B Comprehensive Permit Modifications: 2 - both granted

The year ended with the Board continuing to hear the application for variance filed by Star Tower Co. and T-Mobile Northeast to allow a cell tower on the Wedgewood Pines Country Club property off Harvard Road. The hearing opened in September, was closed in January 2011 and resulted in a denial.

The Board once again bade farewell to a long-time member. Art Lowden retired and moved from Stow after serving for almost 40 years. His wise counsel is greatly missed.

The Board of Appeals meets on the first Monday of each month, as needed, in the Town Building. Applications may be obtained from the Town Clerk's office or the Town's web page. Information regarding procedure may be obtained by contacting Catherine Desmond, Secretary to the Board.

Respectfully, submitted,

Arthur R. Lowden, retired
John Clayton, Jr., Clerk
Edmund C. Tarnuzzer, Jr.
Michele L. Shoemaker
Charles A. Barney, Associate
Lee Heron, Associate

William F. Byron, Jr., Associate
Bruce E. Fletcher, Associate
Ruth K. Sudduth, Associate
Andrew J. DeMore, Associate

Catherine A. Desmond, Secretary

TOWN SERVICES

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

The Stow Agricultural Commission is charged with maintaining the viability of agriculture in Stow. This includes advising other Town boards on matters pertaining to agriculture, resolving conflicts between agriculture and residential uses, and promoting agriculture in town.

Residents are reminded that Stow has a right-to-farm bylaw, which reiterates State laws in our Town Bylaws. As part of this bylaw, we provide a notification form for use in transfers of property that lets people know that farms are active in Stow.

The Stow AgCom is working on an inventory of farms in town. At present we have a list of more than 20 families involved in agriculture. If you have a farm you want to be included in our inventory, please contact us. We can be contacted by mail at the Town Offices, 380 Great Road, or through our website <http://stowagcom.org>, or through the Agricultural Commission page on the Town website <http://www.stow-ma.gov>.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Martin-Sullivan
Liz Painter

Dwight Sipler
Kathy Steege

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

The Building Department issued a total of 255 Building Permits in 2010. We inspected the construction of the Center School Phase I foundation and utility work, commercial expansion, new homes, kitchen & bath remodeling, home additions and wood & pellet stoves. Construction at Arbor Glen was completed, but Villages at Stow and Derby Woods continued at a steady pace. In the Lower Village, construction of the Shaw's Supermarket Addition and the Red Ginger

Restaurant build-out were completed. In addition we attended seminars for new building codes, energy codes & fire safety as required under the continuing education requirements set forth by the Department of Public Safety. In addition to the duties as Building Inspectors, we are also in charge of the following municipal properties: Town Building, Town Hall, West School, and the Crescent Street Garage.

We have maintained the existing Town Buildings as follows:

Town Hall

Regular maintenance was performed. In addition, annual maintenance of the oil burners was completed as well as annual testing of the smoke detectors & fire alarm notification system.

Town Building

Regular maintenance items included changing air filters, grease for the air handling units and the hot water circulating pumps. Annual inspections were completed for the elevator, smoke alarm system and the sprinkler system. 87 lighting fixtures were replaced with new high efficiency Super T-8 florescent lights. The emergency generator connection contract was bid in July and installation of the manual transfer switch and wiring were 95% complete by December. A small 3rd Floor office space for the Town Nurse & Veterans Agent was also 95% built out by December.

West School & Crescent Street Garage Building

These buildings were checked periodically for security. The Historical Commission provided a historical plaque for the West School that was installed by the Building Department. In addition, exterior painting of the wood trim was completed under the tax work off program.

Randall Memorial Library

We provided assistance to the Library Trustees in the determination of future interior & exterior work required at the library. Slate roof repairs and sealing of the flat roof were completed. Several heavy rainstorms in May caused interior flooding through the foundation walls. We assisted the Library in assessing the damage and arranged for mold and mildew clean up.

In summary, I want to thank all the Town Departments for their support, particularly members of the Fire Department who are integral in the building permit process. Of course, many thanks to Judie Scraggs and Sheila Deleo for their dedicated service in the Building Department.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig D. Martin P.E., Building
Commissioner

Judith Scraggs, Administrative Assistant
Sheila Deleo, Clerk

Inspectors

Douglas Hyde, Local Inspector
Ray Renzoni, Local Inspector
Robert Norton, Wire Inspector
Charles Weeks, Deputy Wire Inspector

Michael Norton, Deputy Wire Inspector
Eric Sahlberg, Plumbing Inspector
Raymond Smith, Deputy Plumbing
Inspector
Adam Sahlberg, Deputy Plumbing Inspector

Raymond Smith, Gas Inspector
 Adam Sahlberg, Deputy Gas Inspector

Robert Smith, Deputy Gas Inspector

BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED IN 2010

Number of Permits	Type of Construction	Construction Value
27	Single Family Dwelling	\$8,339,569.00
85	Remodeling and Additions	\$2,539,779.00
76	Strip & Re-roof, Re-siding & Windows	\$844,999.00
3	Swimming Pools	\$87,500.00
8	Commercial	\$583,379.00
3	Schools	\$24,600,000.00
9	Outbuildings	\$252,200.00
12	Temporary Tents	N/A
19	Wood/Pellet Stoves	\$49,291.00
10	Demolition Permits	\$103,187.00
1	Retaining Wall	\$47,000.00
2	<u>Wireless</u>	<u>\$71,000.00</u>
255	Totals	\$37,517,904.00

TOTAL PERMITS/CERTIFICATES ISSUED IN 2010

Number of Permits/Certificates	Fees Collected
255 Building Permits	\$73,659.45
343 Electrical Permits	\$27,349.00
238 Plumbing Permits	\$17,446.00
91 Gas Permits	\$4,336.00
33 Sign/Banner Permits	\$948.20
10 Annual Certificates	\$400.00
62 <u>Trench Permits</u>	<u>\$2,370.00</u>
1,032 Total Permits	\$126,508.65

CABLE LICENSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Cable License Advisory Committee assists the Stow Board of Selectmen with awarding the license a cable company requires from the town in order to provide cable television service to its residents. It also works to assure that the terms of the license are being followed.

Stow's first cable license was awarded to Adams Russell way back in 1986 and was last renewed in 2002 for ten years. Adams Russell provided Stow video cable service under this license for many years, and then sold its license to Cablevision, which sold it to AT&T. Today, Comcast holds that license.

In October 2007, Verizon submitted a request for a video cable license to offer cable service to Stow. Negotiations for the terms of this license took place and culminated with the Selectmen signing a 15-year cable license with Verizon on June 24, 2008. Verizon has provided fiber optic cable to most parts of the Town and currently offers full video cable service, along with high-speed Internet service and digital telephone service to those parts of town serviced by overhead wiring. Providing service to those needing underground wiring will begin after the ground thaws this spring. The number of Verizon cable customers is slowly growing, some with new service, some switching from Comcast, and others switching from satellite.

Both Comcast and Verizon offer many options within their video service packages, and both provide Stow's local access channel (Stow-TV) on Comcast channel 9 and on Verizon channel 32. In addition, Verizon provides Stow with a second local access channel (channel 33), which is used currently to carry the Stow bulletin board 24 hours a day and carries repeats of many of the government meetings more frequently than on channel 32.

Both licenses provide for a percentage of Comcast's and Verizon's income from Stow subscribers to be returned to the Town in order to support its Stow-TV local access channels. The Cable Committee is monitoring both Comcast's and Verizon's system to make sure all the terms of the license are being met and that all license payments are being made at the time specified by the license.

The broadband Internet service and the digital telephone service provided by both Comcast and Verizon are carried by the same cable each uses to provide Stow residents with video service. But only the video service requires a Stow license (and provides Stow with operational funds) since the Internet and telephone services are considered a 'data' service and are regulated by the State, not by Stow.

The Stow Cable License Advisory Committee has no control over the cost of service by either company, nor in the selection of programs offered by the companies over their video cable service. Subscribers need to call the company's customer service to resolve any problems of this nature. If the problem is related to providing service (not content or price) and cannot be resolved by customer service, contact the Stow Cable Committee to see if additional assistance can be provided.

Respectfully submitted,

Lew Halprin, Chair
Bob Mong

Arny Buckman

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

The Cemetery Committee, which reports to the Board of Selectmen, is composed of three members, each serving a 3-year term. The committee this past year appointed an associate member, Stephen A. Gray. The committee is responsible for the management, maintenance and upkeep of the town's cemeteries.

The three cemeteries in Stow (Hillside Cemetery on Crescent Street, The Lower Village Cemetery at Great Road and Pompositticut Street, and Brookside Cemetery on Gleasondale Road and Box Mill Road) are all maintained by the Superintendent and seasonal part-time employees.

The main improvement this past year was the installation of a granite post fence at Brookside Cemetery. This project should be completed in the early spring. The Superintendent has also been working with the Historical Committee and the Community Preservation Committee to restore the stone wall at Lower Village Cemetery and to repair and restore many of the old markers that have been broken and are in need of repositioning. Many of these markers are showing their age due to being exposed to New England weather for hundreds of years.

The Committee again wants to recognize the outstanding work of Superintendent Robb "GH" Gledhill who, most of the time, maintains all three cemeteries by himself. He has been fortunate to have some seasonal help this past year, which allows him to work on other projects.

The Committee is always looking for anyone who would be interested in helping out with the maintenance of the cemeteries on a part-time basis. If you are interested, contact the Superintendent at the Office of the Cemetery Committee in the Town Hall.

The Committee wants to thank the Board of Selectmen, the Town Administrator, and all the townspeople who supported us this past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Fred Dodge, Chairman
Roy A. Dudley
William E. Clayton

Stephen A. Gray, Associate
Robb Gledhill, Superintendent

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

The Community Preservation Act (CPA), MGL c.44B, was enacted into legislation on September 14, 2000. The goal of the Community Preservation Act is to provide communities with the means to expand their ability to pursue and implement projects that preserve or enhance their quality of life. Under this legislation, municipalities may opt to participate by adopting a property tax surcharge to create a locally-controlled Community Preservation Fund. The state provides a match, up to a maximum of 100 percent, depending on what percentage surcharge is

adopted and the number of communities participating statewide. The Community Preservation Fund can be used to fund projects related to the acquisition and preservation of open space, the creation and support of affordable housing, and the acquisition and preservation of historic buildings, landscapes and documents.

Stow voters accepted the provisions of the Community Preservation Act (CPA) at the Town Meeting in May of 2001. At the subsequent Annual Town Election, Stow voters opted to enact a property tax surcharge of 3 percent to create the Stow Community Preservation Fund. Stow voters also opted to adopt all of the possible exemptions to the surcharge, including: those properties occupied by low-income property owners and those properties occupied by low- or moderate-income senior property owners, if such property owners show proof of income eligibility. The other exemption is on the first \$100,000 of assessed real property, which is taken automatically and reflected in the amount assessed to each property owner. As a result, Stow is participating in a manner that maximizes the state matching funds with the least possible financial impact to the community.

The fiscal year ending June 30, 2010 was the ninth year of collections and state matching grants. In October 2010 Stow was awarded \$176,222 – a 39.86 percent match – greatly increasing our community's ability to take action in the three specified areas. State matching funds have been awarded each year in which Stow has participated (over \$2.5 million in state matching funds awarded to date). Community Preservation funds are deposited in a locally controlled, interest-bearing account. Additionally, Stow has earned over \$600,000 in interest on CPA funds since adoption in 2001.

Pursuant to the adoption of the CPA in May 2001, the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) was formed to develop a Community Preservation Plan and to oversee implementation of the CPA in Stow. The CPC's role is to study the existing resources of the town, identify critical needs, evaluate various options for addressing those needs, and recommend specific projects for Town Meeting consideration. All projects recommended by the CPC also must be approved by a majority vote at Town Meeting before expenditures can be made from Stow's Community Preservation Fund.

Highlights of 2010

In May of 2010, Town Meeting attendees voted to appropriate \$20,000 of CPA Historic Reserve Funds for the purpose of restoring the final section of historic stone wall at Lower Village Cemetery, \$48,000 of CPA Historic Reserve Funds for the purpose of restoring historic headstones at Stow's 3 cemeteries, and \$80,000 from the CPA Open Space and Recreation Reserve Funds to purchase a conservation restriction from the Stow Conservation Trust on 30± acres of land on two parcels near Maple Street and Edgehill Road.

At a Special Town Meeting in November 2010 Town Meeting attendees voted to appropriate \$46,000 of CPA Open Space and Recreation Reserve Funds for the appropriation of engineering design funds for a potential construction project of a portion of the Assabet River Rail Trail on Track Road. The Town previously acquired an easement on Track Road that allows the possible future construction of a portion of the Assabet River Rail Trail and allows public access to the existing trail.

Stow Community Park, funded with CPA money, was opened in Spring 2010. Over the past several months residents have enjoyed use of the fields, pavilion, and skating rink. The rear portion of the project continues to be under lease to a local farmer.

At the Annual Town Meeting in May of 2010, Town Meeting voters approved Community Preservation warrant articles for appropriating funds for administrative purposes (\$30,000) and for making the annual reserves and adjustments required under the Community Preservation Act: Acquisition and Preservation of Historic Buildings and Landscapes (\$62,000), Acquisition and Preservation of Open Space and Recreation Land (\$62,000), and Acquisition and Support of Affordable Housing (\$62,000).

The CPC looks forward to working with others to implement additional Community Preservation projects selected by Town Meeting voters. In addition, the Committee looks forward to evaluating proposals currently in the developmental phase including a Historic Documents Preservation project, a fire suppression system to preserve the historic Town Hall, and a town-wide Archaeological Reconnaissance Project. The prospect of receiving significant state matching funds appears promising for 2011. Stow voters are to be commended for deciding nine years ago to be one of first of the 147 communities in Massachusetts (representing more than one third of the Commonwealth) that are accruing the many and varied benefits of local adoption of the Community Preservation Act.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Wilber, Chairman	Open Space Committee
Mike Busch	Recreation Commission
Bill Byron	Council on Aging
Wayne Fletcher	Historical Commission
Bob Larkin	Housing Authority
Peter McManus	Finance Committee
Dominick Pugliese	Assessors Office
Kathy Sferra	Conservation Commission
Kathleen Willis	Planning Board
Deb Seith, Administrative Assistant	

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE PROJECT STATUS REPORT

	Orig Project Cost	Rescinded Projects Money Not Used	TL Amt Appopr. \$ 4,948,962.36
Totals for Open Space/Recreation	\$ 3,586,100.00	\$ 1,147,500.00	\$ 2,438,600.00
Spring Hill on Walcott - Open Space	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 500,000.00	
Spring Hill on Walcott - Recreation	\$ 347,500.00	\$ 347,500.00	
Red Acre Road- Conservation Land	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 300,000.00	
Conservation Comm Acquisition of Open Space Acq Open Space Tyler APR \$21,500	\$ 50,000.00		
Hale Woodlands	\$ 35,000.00		
Lake Boon Preservation Project	\$ 77,000.00		
Assabet Rail Trail Easement	\$ 227,000.00		
Moseley APR	\$ 23,600.00		
Maple Street CR for SCT	\$ 80,000.00		
Albright Easement - Rail Trail	\$ 227,000.00		
Snow Property Acquisition	\$ 673,000.00		
Stow Community Park Construction	\$ 1,000,000.00		
Design Plan for Track Road Rail Trail	\$ 46,000.00		
Totals for Historical	\$ 168,419.00	\$ 8,056.64	\$ 160,362.36
Exp-West School Parking/Access	\$ 20,000.00		
Secure Blacksmith School	\$ 929.00	\$ 184.00	
Lower Village Cemetery Wall Restoration	\$ 9,990.00	\$ 71.72	
Lower Village Cemetery Wall Restoration #2	\$ 19,500.00	\$ 5,300.92	
Lower Village Cemetery Wall Restoration #3	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 2,500.00	
Rehab Monuments & Headstones	\$ 48,000.00		
Townwide Inventory of Historic Properties	\$ 50,000.00		
Totals for Affordable Housing	\$ 2,702,500.00	\$ 352,500.00	\$ 2,350,000.00
Exp - Spring Hill on Walcott	\$ 252,500.00	\$ 252,500.00	
Exp-Red Acre Road Perp Deed Restriction	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00	
Pilot Grove Perpetual Deed Restrictions	\$ 350,000.00		
Exp-Purchase Perp Deed Restriction	\$ 250,000.00		
Pilot Grove and Plantation Expansions	\$ 1,750,000.00		

COUNCIL ON AGING

Transportation remains the number one service. This vital service continues to grow each year. The COA transported approximately 780 riders totaling over 7,300 trips covering 31,160 miles. The van fare income received was approximately \$4,200. COA billed MART for transportation services totaling over \$36,000, which was turned back to the Town's General Fund Account.

In April, the COA experienced a horrific tragedy. We lost our beloved full time van driver Lisa Scesny. She will always be remembered. Lisa always went above and beyond the call of duty and brought sunshine into the lives of Stow seniors. She was energetic, vivacious and hard working. Lisa is dearly missed by the COA staff and those she served. Special thanks go to Beverly Benoit and Jim and Betty Sauta for filling the gap during this difficult period.

The COA has requested space from the Pompo Use Study Committee for a new Senior Center.

New Programs Offered in 2010: "Lawyer for a day" - Attorney Daniel M. Tremblay of Bolton kindly offers a free ½ hour one-on-one consultation to seniors. He advises on any questions regarding Elder Law, Estate Planning, Mediation, Guardianship and Probate. Jim's Diner Tour – every month former truck driver Jim Sauta takes the group to a different diner in the area.

A variety of Nutritional Programs are offered such as: Congregate Meals, Meals On Wheels, Monthly Breakfast and "Soups On" Program which are all well attended.

Art and Craft classes are offered weekly. Health and Educational presentations are offered monthly on a variety of topics including Get Organized, Laugh Yourself Healthy, Vertigo, Medication Management, Edible Wild Plants, Art History, Memoir Writing, Cooking, etc.

Weekly Exercise Programs offered include: Aerobics, Arthritis, Tai Chi, Yoga, and Zumba Gold classes. Special Walking groups are held periodically.

Podiatry Clinics are held monthly. Approximately 20 participants attend each month.

Cultural, Educational and Recreational Outings such as: museums, casinos, circus, flower show, baseball games, assisted living facilities, TV Stations, Winery/Brewery, restaurants, diners, etc.

This past year COA has loaned out over 100 items of Durable Medical Equipment including: wheelchairs, tub bench/chairs, commodes, walkers, canes, and other miscellaneous items.

Intergenerational Programs: COA has partnered with the schools and Stow Girl and Boy Scouts providing a variety of programs. They also provided assistance with serving meals at special events, holiday decorations and cards. Other programs included sand for seniors and pen pals.

Newsletter: This past year we changed the distribution of our 12-page newsletter from only seniors to every household in Stow. It is mailed as an insert in the Stow Independent.

Free Professional Services offered this past year included: Reiki Clinic, S.H.I.N.E., Tax Preparation, Computer Class, Computer In-Home Repair Service, Veterans Benefits, etc.

Our Outreach Coordinator and Worker provided numerous hours of assistance with seniors/disabled/veterans and their families such as: Life Line, RUOK, Fuel Assistance, Meals on Wheels, Food Stamps, Food Pantry, Veteran Benefits, home and hospital visits, etc.

Senior Tax Work-Off Program continues to grow each year. It was filled to capacity, 20 participants worked in various town departments and the schools.

Social Programs: Valentine's Tea, St. Patrick's Day Party, Red Sox Opening Day, May Day Baskets – Stow Garden Club, Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon, Strawberry Festival, Doggy Visits, Summertime Picnic, Autumn Tea, Veteran's Breakfast and our Holiday Luncheon.

Volunteer Program: Approximately 70 volunteers provided over 4,000 hours of service to the COA. Our "Unsung Hero" this year was awarded to Jim Sauta, who has led the charge for the last 10 years. He is a tenacious advocate fighting for our causes and making our needs known to the town. The COA can't thank our volunteers enough for all they do.

The Stow Friends of the Council on Aging (SFCOA) raise funds to supplement the COA. They have a gift shop, which offers a variety of Stow souvenir and hand made crafts made by Stow seniors. This past year, the SFCOA purchased for the COA a 58" flat screen TV, and a 2005 20-passenger Ford E450 van, which replaced our 1994 18-passenger van. SFCOA now has a fundraiser collection bin, "Got Books", in the parking lot of Warren Insurance for books, DVDs, CDs, videos and audio books. The Friends receive a small percentage of the proceeds.

Minuteman Senior Services (MSS) provided \$150,277 worth of services to 550 Stow seniors this past year in return for our contribution of \$1,037. MSS is funded by state and federal grants.

Funding Sources: This past year the COA received funds from the Avidia Bank's Charitable Foundation, Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs, Stow Community Chest, Stow Cultural Council, Stow Friends of the Council on Aging and the Stow Women's Club.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Donovan, Chair
Newton Wesley, Vice Chair
Ruth Delmonico, Secretary
Paul Chaisson
Alice Olsen
Gus Stathis
Beth Tobey (Chair Jan - Sep)
Eleanor Beaudette, Associate
Brian Burke, Associate

William Byron, Associate
Nancy Chaisson, Associate
Rep. Kate Hogan, Associate
Josephine Langley, Associate

Alyson Toole, Executive Director
Sharon Funkhouser, Outreach & Volunteer
Coordinator
Suzanne Howley, Outreach Worker



IN MEMORY OF

LISA SCESNY

1964 – 2010

***COUNCIL ON AGING
VAN DRIVER/DISPATCHER***

2006 – 2010

Years of Service

CULTURAL COUNCIL

The Stow Cultural Council is dedicated to creating a closer-knit community in Stow by sponsoring and supporting activities in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences that bring the diverse elements of our community together for enjoyment and cultural enrichment. The SCC especially seeks to fund projects that bring together parts of the community that do not often interact in their day-to-day lives in order to foster understanding by experiencing events together, working on projects and sharing stories about Stow's history.

The Stow Cultural Council completed a successful year, receiving a total of \$4,325 in grants from the following sources: \$3,825.00 from the State Legislature through the Massachusetts Cultural Council; and \$500 from Town Meeting.

The council voted to grant funds to the following projects for 2010/2011 fiscal year:

- Nashoba Regional High School Friends of Drama: \$600 (Costumes for "Chicago")
- Hale Middle School Play: \$625
- Big Band – Benny Goodman's 1938 Carnegie Hall Concert: \$500 (Paul Bouchard)
- Stow West School Open House: \$450 (Stow Historical Society)
- John and His Friends: \$300 (Lewis Halprin)
- Convert Old Historical Society Tapes to DVD: \$200.00 (Lewis Halprin)
- Lake Boon Water Carnival Music Boat: \$125 (Lake Boon Improvement Association)
- Summer Reading Program: \$950 (Randall Library)
- 2010-2011 Concert Season: \$1080 (Sounds of Stow)
- View of a Butterfly: \$350 (Eye of The Storm Equine Rescue)
- The Stow Story Slam: \$250.00 (Skye Gibson)
- The Children's Garden: \$ 400 (Ed Morgan)
- 76th Regular Exhibition of Art and Craft: \$100 (The Fitchburg Art Museum)
- Opportunities to Engage with The Arts: \$100 (Hudson Area Arts Alliance)
- Love Letters: \$210 (Richard Clark)

The Stow Cultural Council encourages any Stow resident to apply for a grant for a project of his or her own imagination, or to sponsor an event by an area artist or performer, that will benefit the Stow community. Grant applications may be received at any time, but **must be received no later than October 15, 2011** for the next granting cycle. For more information see the Cultural Council page on the town website, www.stow-ma.gov. Please note that MCC requirements ask the local cultural councils to fund each project for no more than 3 years and to reduce the amount granted each year to reduce dependence on the local cultural council. Local cultural council grants are to be considered a temporary aid to encourage groups to find added sources of funding. In particular, this year the state reduced funding and all Fieldstone funds have been expended.

Membership currently stands at six (6), which meets the Mass Cultural Council's minimum requirement of five members. Members are Anne Draudt (publicist), Pat Mullen (Treasurer), Phyllis Fitzsimmons-Luce, Nancy Maldari, Dorothy Sonnichsen and Ann Deluty (chair). Bob Glorioso and Betsy Stepp are members emeritus.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann L Deluty, Chair
Phyllis Fitzsimmons-Luce
Patricia Mullen, Treasurer
Nancy Maldari

Anne Draudt
Betsy Stepp
Dorothy Sonnichsen
Robert Glorioso

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

The year of 2010 saw the Highway Department dealing with winter weather on several different occasions. Our trucks were dispatched 47 different times to treat the roads with salt and our crew of plow operators were called upon to clear the roads of snow for 8 separate storms totaling 46 inches of snow unofficially. During a salting operation we utilize 6 salt spreading trucks and during plowing operations we have 20 plow trucks clearing the roads.

On our off times from snow and ice control in the winter and throughout the rest of the year, crews were sent out for a total of seven weeks to cut roadside brush, low hanging limbs, and pick up downed tree limbs from high winds throughout the Town. We also took down 27 trees, which were dead or dying and were hazardous to the public.

In the spring we accomplished the construction of a 1,950-foot stretch of byway running the complete length of Pompositticut Street. The construction of this byway was requested by the Planning Board's Lower Village Sub-Committee and paid for out of the Planning Board's Sidewalk Fund.

During the summer and into the fall we took on two large reconstruction projects. Prepping for reconstruction was done on Boxboro Road and Great Road between Harvard Road and Orchard Drive. This department took the time to correct any drainage problems and road grade issues to ensure proper drainage and maximum life expectancy for the new roads. After all the drainage issues were addressed, private contractors were hired to cold plane the existing roads and then lay down a new asphalt surface. The process of cold planing the road is where the top two inches of existing road are ground off and hauled away. The road material that was generated from this process (about 3,000 cubic yards of it, known as Recycled Asphalt Product), was then spread on most of the Town's gravel roads by this department. This material, when spread and compacted, creates a good hard surface for vehicles to travel on and is also less susceptible to becoming mud during the spring thaw. The reconstruction of Boxboro Road and Great Road were paid for using State Chapter 90 funds.

In the Fall we took delivery of our new six wheel truck which features a Stainless Steel spreader body. This truck is unique to the Town, as the cab and chassis used to be the Fire Department's

old tanker truck. All of the Fire components were removed from the cab and chassis, and the truck was built by JC Madigan of Harvard, MA. Being able to utilize the cab and chassis from the old fire truck, we were able to save approximately \$7,500 out of the initial \$80,000 funded to purchase the truck.

The Highway Department is responsible for the maintenance and care of about 70 miles of road in town, as well as the maintenance of any municipal properties (not including ball fields). This includes but is not limited to, the maintenance of pavement markings, surface drainage, drainage systems, and roadsides and roadside appurtences such as trees, brush, debris, guard rails, street signs, and markers. It is the mission of this department to keep the roads in Stow safe and convenient for travel by the prudent driver.

We would not be able to accomplish all of this if it weren't for the hard working dedicated crew of Highway Department employees and the help we receive from the Police Department, Fire Department, Town Administrator, and Board of Selectmen. Thank you for another successful year.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael E. Clayton, Superintendent of Streets

Scott Morse, Asst Superintendent
Rachel Belanger, Secretary
William Tuttle
Steve Landry

Brian Hatch
Tim Gray
Albeo Duguay
Joe Landry
Jonathan Gray
Scott Landry





STOW HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Stow Housing Authority, founded by Town Meeting, is authorized by and operates under the provisions of Chapter 121B of the Massachusetts General Laws to manage and administer low-rent housing programs, funded by the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) and the U.S. Department of Housing and Community Development. The operations of the Authority are supported entirely by grants or contracts with the state or federal governments. The Stow Housing Authority is governed by a Board of five commissioners, four of whom are locally elected with the fifth member appointed by the Commonwealth. The Board of Commissioners meets as necessary at the Town Building. The Stow Housing Authority has contracted with the Hudson Housing Authority to administer the rental assistance programs.

The mission of the Stow Housing Authority is to provide decent and safe housing to needy persons. Currently, the Stow Housing Authority administers state vouchers, which are assigned to the Pilot Grove Development.

The Hudson Housing Authority staff conducts the day-to-day program administration.

The Stow Housing Authority continues as the monitoring agent for the affordable housing units built at the Villages at Stow as well as the LIP (local initiative program) located at Elm Ridge.

Respectfully Submitted,

W. Robert Dilling, Chairman
Jack Kendra
Robert Larkin
Sean Osborne

Robert Barrell, Stow and Hudson Housing
Authority

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Department Description

The Information Technology Department serves other Town departments through a series of services that includes integrating computer systems, coordinating and providing training, negotiating and managing information technology-related contracts, and technology assistance and support. This includes, but is not limited to, all IT related upgrades, migrations or integrations, as well as responsibility for planning the future IT infrastructure.

The department creates the technological environment that enables Town employees to quickly access vital information using the most efficient and cost effective system hardware and software. The department provides leadership as an active partner in the Departmental telecommunications and data-sharing network.

Mission

The Information Technology Department assists Town departments in responding to the needs of the citizens by enabling Town employees to quickly access vital information. We are dedicated to providing quality service through teamwork, partnerships, and developing team and individual strengths.

Outcomes

- Provide quality, cost effective telecommunication services to all Town departments.
- Provide and maintain effective business applications, which help us maintain our information to meet residents' needs.
- Provide and maintain a secure, reliable, and effective Information Technology Infrastructure.
- Increase public access to information and Town services through the Internet.
- Provide project management of Information Technology solutions that are being deployed at any time within the municipal departments.
- Responsible for the strategic planning and implementation of all computer, data networking and telecommunications systems.

Commendations

I am proud to report that the town received the 2010 e-government award from the Massachusetts Common Cause and recognition of our commitment to transparency from the House of Representatives.

Thanks

The Information Technology Department extends a special thanks to our volunteers, Paul Yannoni and Robert Mong for their enormous contributions. With their ongoing efforts in helping to maintain our infrastructure, they have helped in keeping the IT repair and service costs at a minimum.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Tobey, Information Technology Director

LAKE BOON COMMISSION

The Lake Boon Commission (LBC) is made up of three people appointed by the Selectmen of Hudson and Stow. There are two members from Stow and one from Hudson, reflecting the area of the lake in each town. Current serving members are Lee Heron from Stow, Cindy Curley from Stow and Conray Wharff from Hudson (Chair). The LBC holds meetings at the Stow Town Building about once a month. The meetings are public; everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. Meeting notices are posted at both Town Halls at least 48 hours before the meetings.

Lake Boon is such a wonderful secret that we all share; how often do friends come over and remark that they never knew there was such a nice lake so close to home and work. I feel we are all very fortunate to live here as one community. You do not have to live on the lake to get on the lake. Beach passes are available at the Stow town building for the Stow beach and there is a public boat ramp on Sudbury Road.

Our single community has many interests and views about how to enjoy our lake. Some like to sail, swim, fish or boat, others are happy just being by the water. All these interests share a love of the lake but not always a love of the other person's point of view. One of the biggest challenges we face is how the best manage our lake for everyone's enjoyment.

This is where we need your help; everyone needs to understand that we all share the lake and needs to be tolerant of the other guy. Everyone needs to know and follow the rules of the lake. Motorboats have to watch their wakes and be aware of swimmers; swimmers need to understand that they are hard to see from boats when they are in the middle of the lake under a glaring sun.

Jet skiers have a particularly difficult problem; the lake is so small that is very difficult to always be 150 feet from shore or another boat. Many lakes have banned jet skis just because they do not honor the rules. Motorboats have to be aware of their wakes and stay at least 75 feet from shore and other boats.

We need to do not just what the rules require, we need to use our common sense to do "the right thing".

Not everyone will do that so we will enforce the rules. We have patrol officers who will be out at random times to enforce our rules. Tickets are \$50 each for each violation; we can easily write more than one ticket when we stop a person.

There are several rules that I would like to point out, as these are the ones people most often violate.

Headway speed only and lights on after dark for all boats, whether driven by motor or human power. Yes, all boats should have lights on after sunset, not just, motor boats. From ½ hour before sunset to ½ hour after sunrise the lake speed limit is headway speed only. Lights are required from sunset to sunrise. Headway speed is boat in gear with no extra throttle.

Jet Skis are required by state law to be 150 feet away from everything at any speed other than idle. This is very difficult on Lake Boon. It means that you have to idle out 150 feet from shore before applying power; it means that you must stay at least 150 feet from shore, other boats and swimmers, at any speed other than headway only.

Drinking of alcoholic beverages and throwing trash into the lake are prohibited. Many a morning the lake has aluminum fish floating on its waters. Throwing anything into the lake is against the law. That includes leaves and grass as well as more obvious trash. You can get a ticket just for having alcoholic beverages in your boat or throwing anything overboard.

Any towing activity requires three people, one to be towed, one to drive and one to observe. Pulling a person without an observer is a major safety issue. Observers must be over 12 years of age. We have zero tolerance policy for safety violations.

Lake Boon is under attack from non-native invasive weeds and increased nutrient loading. The primary way to combat these attacks is a comprehensive lake management program that includes nutrient management and aquatic vegetation management. Aquatic vegetation management is done with state-approved herbicides applied under state permits and Orders of Conditions from the Conservation Commissions of Stow and Hudson. Nutrient management is accomplished by intercepting nutrients before they get to the lake in catch basins and Lake Drawdown, which removes the nutrients.

Lake Boon is under a total lake management program designed to improve water quality and manage invasive weeds in the lake. The Conservation Commissions of both Stow and Hudson and the Board of Health in Stow are working with the Lake Boon Commission to improve water quality and manage the weeds

Lake Drawdown is one of the tools we use in the total lake management program. Lake Drawdown is complicated but best thought of as emptying a bathtub. Drain some of the water away and the nutrients leave the lake. It is free but may affect shallow wells around the lake. The Lake Boon Commission, working with the Stow and Hudson boards, state DEP, and many interested parties, has permission to do Lake Drawdown in the fall of year 2011 under a public order of conditions.

Lee Heron is one of Lake Boon's patrol officers. As a member of the LBC he manages patrolling of Lake Boon for both the LBC patrol boat and the Stow Police patrol boat. The Stow Police boat is also manned by Stow police officers. The goal is to ensure safety and enforce regulations on the lake. All power boats are required to be registered; the state Environmental police and our patrol officers will enforce registration requirements.

Boat owners are responsible for their boats at all times, regardless of who is driving their boat. Every summer we stop many boats for minor violations resulting in tickets and fines. We have a zero tolerance policy for safety violations; if a boat is stopped for safety violations it will be ticketed.

The rules are posted at the launch site or available on line from the Stow town website. State rules are on line as well at Mass.gov. If you send Conray Wharff an e-mail at the address below, he will send you a copy of the rules.

We are always looking for volunteers to help with ongoing lake management projects. If you are interested, please contact us via your Town Offices or send e-mail to Conray Wharff at cwharff@comcast.net

Respectfully submitted,

Conray Wharff, Hudson, Chair
Cindy Curley, Stow

Lee Heron, Stow

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

In 2010, Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environment offered communities with recently completed Open Space and Recreation Plans (OSRP) the opportunity to extend their plans two additional years. The Town of Stow applied for an extension of its 2008 plan and the extension was accepted. This will allow Stow to participate in Massachusetts Department of Conservation Services grants through September 2014.

Also in 2010, the Open Space Committee completed a review of property evaluation criteria. These criteria (outlined in the OSRP) include natural resources such as water, habitat, and soils, as well as cultural resources, such as scenic landscape, state heritage landscapes, and recreational trails. By comparing these resources with the existing land protection in Stow, the committee will be in a better position to make recommendations to the town when potential open space lands become available.

In 2010 Stow's Chapter 61 Quick Response Team began operating. This group, made up of representatives from seven town boards and committees, has developed a standard report to quickly orient town officials regarding properties which the town may exercise Right-of-First-Refusal on, as part of the Chapter 61 tax abatement program.

Because of the time limitations associated with this right, information on such properties is needed quickly in order for the town to make intelligent decisions on whether to pursue them for open space or municipal use. The design and contents of this type of report will be finalized in 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

Vin Antil, Chair
Eve Donahue
Bill Maxfield

Brian J. Mulcahy
Chris Rodstrom

RECREATION COMMISSION

This past year has been exciting and eventful for the Recreation Commission. The Commission is very excited that Stow Community Park is nearly complete and we were able to open to the community in the spring of 2010. The new recreational facility is a great addition to Stow. The playground that is the final phase of the project is scheduled to be complete in the spring of 2011. Town-wide brochures are distributed throughout the year, highlighting the many new programs that have been established as well as the existing programs. The fourth annual Stow Gobbler road race was even more successful than last year, with over 800 participants walking or running the race on Thanksgiving Day. Thanks to the Hurd and Allaire families, volunteers, and sponsors for making this race such a success.

The Recreation Commission is dedicated to providing town-wide programming for all ages. During the past year the Recreation Commission has outlined its short- and long-term goals and the steps needed to achieve success. The Commission is excited about the possibilities that can be accomplished in the years ahead to make recreation in Stow an important ingredient to maintaining and improving the quality of life. The Commission would like to encourage others within the community to participate, either as an associate member or to assist in the development and implementation of programs. Also, please feel free to bring any issues or ideas to the Commission. We would welcome your input. Thanks to all the workers and volunteers who helped with the programs throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Busch, Chairperson
Robert Braceland
John Sangermano
Tim Allaire

Josh Schiering

Laura Greenough, Recreation Director

SPRINGFEST COMMITTEE

It was the Springfest Committee's distinct privilege and pleasure to celebrate all that is wonderful about our town with a weekend of family-friendly activities May 14-16, 2010.

We brought back a number of events, and tried out some new activities that we thought were a great addition to the weekend. Most impressive was the Grand Parade, which has gone from a wonderful fire truck display to a parade that included all aspects of Stow life! Thanks to the extraordinary work of Nancy Arsenault, we had farm floats, antique cars, multiple troops of Minutemen, community groups including the Council on Aging and Medical Reserve Corps, a jazz band, lots of marching kids, and even an army tank! It was an incredible event, hard to be repeated!

Taking advantage of a beautiful day, the Saturday activity at Center School was non-stop fun. Stow residents turned out to enjoy the food, games, vendors, and music. We'd like to give a special shout-out to our Police Department for setting up inflatable games, giving out free snacks, showing off their equipment and handing out free bicycle helmets. More than 40 vendors gave folks the opportunity to learn, shop and support area organizations and businesses. The afternoon featured a Spelling Bee (sponsored by RECESS - the group raising funds for the new school project). Teams representing Stow selectmen, schoolteachers, and other organizations faced off with the crowd "buzzing" in excitement. The evening activities started off with a student garage-band concert, and was capped off by the first ever Stow showing of Rocky Horror Picture Show (complete with prop bags handed out to the audience!). Sunday activities included the annual SCT "Run for the Woods" and the "Sounds of Stow" concert. A new addition to the weekend was the "Dog Games and Instruction," which was well attended and appreciated by both two- and four-legged creatures!

We're grateful to everyone who assisted with making SpringFest a great weekend (there are just too many people to list here), and we look forward to seeing you at this year's Springfest May 20-22. This year, Saturday's events will be held at the new Stow Community Park. Anyone interested in volunteering can email us at springfest@stow-ma.gov.

Respectfully submitted,

Murray Levine, Chair
Ellen Sturgis
Karen Kelleher
Pennie Cushing

Marge Alessio
Laura Folsom
Bruce Fletcher
Nancy Arsenault

STOW TV and LOCAL ACCESS CHANNEL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Board of Selectmen established and appointed the Public, Education, and Government (PEG) Committee in November 2002 for the purpose of establishing a local cable TV access channel for the Town of Stow to provide programming in areas of public affairs, education and town government. As part of the governance agreement established by the Board of Selectman on August 9, 2005, the name of the committee was changed to the Local Access Channel Advisory Committee (LACAC). Funding for operations is provided through license agreements negotiated by the Stow Cable License Advisory Committee with Comcast and Verizon.

The cable station is referred to as “Stow TV” and is available on Comcast Channel 9 and Verizon Channels 32 and 33. Stow TV is intended to operate with volunteers and provide video access to town residents. Residents are welcome to use Stow TV equipment for video recording or editing. Stow TV will provide training. Anyone interested in volunteering or contributing video or photos, or assisting productions may call 978-897-7732 or email stowtv@stow-ma.gov.

Stow TV stores video as DVDs and “mpeg” files, and schedules it with a video server computer. There are about 650 shows in the video archives. Stow TV program schedules are publicized in the local newspapers, on the town web site, through email lists, with posters in several public locations, and on the Stow TV bulletin board. Stow TV is on the web at www.stowtv.org

In 2010, Coordinator Anne VanTine managed overall operations of the station. Assistant Coordinator Kathy O’Keefe created, implemented, and publicized program schedules. She also created announcements and displays of photos on the bulletin board. As Technical Assistant, Lew Halprin made improvements to recording setups and devised innovative and practical solutions for various recording situations.

Lew Halprin, Linda Stokes, Mike Jordan, Jonathan Daisy, Marika Barnett, Dan Nicholson, Lynn Colletti, and Anne VanTine produced, recorded, and edited shows seen on Stow TV. Lew Halprin recorded or helped with video production of many events in town, and shows he produced formed the backbone of every Stow TV schedule. Linda Stokes recorded most of the Selectmen meetings. Ralph DeFlorio and Scott Glorioso assisted with some concert recordings.

This year Stow TV equipped a second Town Building conference room with installed cameras and microphones cabled to a recording capability in the station room. A great deal of research and planning led to a cost-effective solution with compact equipment that fit into the space available and integrated with existing equipment within the station.

Also new this year is the “Stow Government Channel” which cablecasts Selectmen, School Committee, and other government-related shows at frequent intervals on Verizon channel 33, an additional channel provided for in the 2008 Verizon contract. The same shows are also available on the mainstream channels (Comcast 9 and Verizon 32), but less frequently. This use of the channel was proposed by Lew Halprin and implemented by Kathy O’Keefe. Kathy schedules the shows and maintains a program listing on the Stow TV web site.

Stow TV cablecast 264 different shows in 2010. These included 25 Selectmen, 15 School Committee, and two Town Meetings. Stow residents additionally produced 142 new shows. From the Stow TV archives, 55 shows were replayed, often to promote annual events. Stow residents requested 26 more shows that were produced elsewhere in Massachusetts.

Stow TV helped educate residents about local issues and the actions of their government. Besides Selectmen, School Committee and Town Meetings, 26 other town government events, and 15 state government topics were shown. These included Finance and Planning Boards, Master Plan, Lake Boon Drawdown, Track Road Design, Pedestrian Walkway, Pompo School Reuse, Harvard Acres Water, Open Meeting and Campaign Finance Laws, MRC activities, Flu and Rabies Clinics, Stow Energy Group, Candidate debates, state legislative updates, Medicare

and Social Security education, and Center School Groundbreaking. The bulletin board encouraged voter participation with registration and election information..

Many shows entertained and educated with a focus on Stow. These included local and school concerts, Memorial and Veterans Day ceremonies, Girl Scout and Eagle Scout ceremonies, “Springfest” festivities, library programs for children, school graduations, fire department events, Council on Aging presentations, talks at First Parish Church, Collings Foundation events, Stow history, locally written plays, shows by local artists, local environment and nature, fairs, childrens’ health and safety, charity events, and much more.

Stow TV implemented hundreds of colorful, eye-catching announcements on the “bulletin board.” A wide variety of local event announcements were continuously shown and updated regularly based on requests from community organizations. Many announcements provided public health and safety information and promoted local charities.

More than 50 photo shows were displayed on the bulletin board. These included library programs, Council on Aging events, community and school concerts, town festivals, nature walks, spring floods, school construction, West School events, Veterans and Memorial Day, and Stow Story Slam. Local contributing photographers included Nancy Arsenaault, Jonathan Daisy, Jon French, Ralph Fuller, Kyr Gibson, Lew Halprin, Greg Irvine, Dick Luxner, Valerie Pederson, Dwight Sipler, Jay Solomon, Tara Taft, Greg Troxel, Paul Trunfio, and Mike Woelki.

Bob Mong and Beth Tobey provided IT support. Stow TV engaged Michael Ridinger for video server support. Gerry Horne managed Town Meeting sound. LACAC met several times during the year. LACAC members contributed time, advice, and oversight for spending and policy decisions, and LACAC member Bob Glorioso advised on equipment selection.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Dungan
Chris Funkhouser
Robert Glorioso

Len Golder
Lisa Lavina
Anne VanTine, Stow TV Coordinator

VETERANS SERVICES

Director’s Report

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen, the Town Administrator, the citizens, and the Veteran Community of Stow, this report is submitted for the year ending 2010.

Veterans’ Benefits

Veterans’ Benefits are governed under Chapter 115 of the Massachusetts General Laws (M.G.L. c. 115) and Commonwealth of Massachusetts Regulations 108 (C.M.R. 108). Benefits assist qualified needy veterans and their dependents based on income levels and in accordance with the Budget Standards Chart. The Town of Stow is reimbursed 75% by the State for veterans’ assistance payments issued by this office.

The Director of Veterans' Services is responsible for determining the eligibility of all cases processed through this office. The Director conducts interviews, establishes approvals, and conducts follow-up on veterans receiving assistance. Field investigations are conducted by this office to determine the recipients' continued eligibility to receive benefits.

Veterans' Services also assists Stow veterans in filing federal forms for benefits which include service-connected disability claims, non-service-connected claims, VA health care, requests for medals, requests for service records, bonus applications, burial assistance and other federal benefits such as counseling in vocational rehabilitation and employment.

Additionally, the Director acts under Power of Attorney for veterans researching and processing cases to the Rating Review Board (Department of Veteran Services), and prepares appeal cases for the Board of Veterans' Appeals on the veteran's behalf. The Director also acts as liaison between State and U.S. Representatives on behalf of veterans and their dependents.

Legislation

During the past year Massachusetts Legislation enacted allows Veterans of Enduring Freedom (OEF) and Iraqi Freedom (OIF) to receive additional bonuses of \$500 for each subsequent tour of duty in the Area of Responsibility (AOR).

Salute

This past year I have had the opportunity to serve as President of the Veterans Association and as Commander of DAV. The work of the association allows all Veterans Agents the opportunity to collaborate regarding the laws that govern veterans and their families. The DAV raised over \$12,000 through their Forget-me-not campaign and 100% of every dollar raised was given back to veterans and widows in need. I salute both of these organizations for their continuous hard work and selflessness to assist our Veterans.

TAPS

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Stearns, Director

FINANCIAL REPORTS

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Introduction to the Finance Committee

Every town in Massachusetts with a property valuation of over \$1 million is required by state law, MGL Ch. 19, Sect. 16, to have a Finance Committee that shall “consider any or all municipal questions for the purpose of making reports or recommendations to the town.” The Finance Committee’s primary responsibility is advisory. It examines the budget and all other warrant articles and makes recommendations to the voters on each article. It also administers the reserve fund to provide for urgent or unforeseen expenditures that might arise between town meetings. Further, the Finance Committee Annual Report should give the people of the town a clear picture of the town’s financial condition.

In Stow, the Moderator appoints five voting and up to five associate members to the Finance Committee. Any voter registered in Stow is eligible to join. As of February 14, 2011 there were five voting members and four associate members on the committee.

Overview of Town Finances and the Fiscal Year 2011 Budget

The Town balanced the budget for the fiscal year 2011, covering the period July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011, (“FY11”) without an override. Though no overrides have been required in the past five budgets, the Center School addition and renovation will increase expenditures by an estimated 7% to 10% by fiscal year 2014, depending on the prevailing interest rates when future bonding occurs.

The Finance Committee remains concerned about long-term trends, as well as more recent cyclical conditions. New construction, which increases our tax base, continued to slow; local receipt growth—heavily dependent on the motor vehicle excise tax—decreased significantly and could remain flat in the coming years. State aid, tied very closely to variable and cyclical state tax revenue, saw another decrease in 2011. This decrease in state aid (both municipal and educational aid) may take several years (if ever) to recover back to fiscal year 2009 (“FY09”) levels. The long-term constraints on our finances remain unchanged from prior years. Stow has an undiversified tax base, forcing the town to rely heavily on residential taxation. Beyond that, Stow has large amounts of land exempted or abated from taxes and relatively low amounts of state aid, one of the lowest amounts of state aid per capita in Massachusetts. However, long-term constraints serve to ameliorate the effect of the current economic downturn. The town’s property tax revenue is more stable than income and sales tax revenue, which are the largest determinants of state aid, and residential property taxes are more stable than commercial and industrial real and personal property taxes.

Stow continued to benefit from a 2009 bond rating upgrade, which contributed to favorable interest rates obtained for the ongoing Center School construction project. Bond ratings, which function as the town’s credit rating and are the fundamental basis of our borrowing costs, are determined based on a number of factors; including the overall economy of the town and its residents, the ability of the town to balance budgets and control spending, the debt structure of

the town, the balance of the town's reserve funds and the overall strength and performance of town management, among others. The factors that most likely played a predominant role in the 2009 upgrade were no doubt the town's ability to balance the budget over the previous four years without an override, as well as the solid management of the town by the Town Administrator and various town departments. It cannot be emphasized enough how important the bond rating is to a town, as an upgrade has the potential to save the town millions of dollars in future debt service costs, especially during periods of economic uncertainty when there is a greater value placed on higher quality bonds. Fortunately, despite the additional debt burden of some of the Center School project and the recent economic downturn, Stow was able to maintain that credit rating at the most recent review.

The costs associated with the Center School project will begin to be felt in the coming fiscal year. However, that cost to the taxpayer has been mitigated slightly with the lower-than-expected project costs due to lower-than-expected bids. The overall savings to the town should approximate \$2.5 million, resulting in a final project cost to the town of approximately \$17 million. The remaining cost of the project will be borne by the Commonwealth through the Massachusetts School Building Authority, which has agreed to contribute approximately 51% of the project funding.

One variable that will have a large effect on the overall cost of the Center School Project is the bond rate. Municipal bond rates have been trending upward and many economists predict that this trend will continue. Despite the town Treasurer's proactive monitoring and securing of favorable long-term bond rates on the amounts expended thus far, we are only part way through the project. In other words, the ultimate cost of the project will remain unknown until the project is completed and the project costs are fully bonded.

At the same time, the Finance Committee remains concerned that the Center School project may greatly hamper the tax base's ability to absorb additional spending increases, and may produce a divergence in the budget, which will eventually require additional overrides. Aligning expenditures with potentially declining as well as somewhat unstable and uncertain revenue streams could be challenging for the town over the next few years.

Town Meetings

Stow held two town meetings in 2010, the Annual Town Meeting in May and a Special Town Meeting in November.

The Annual Town Meeting approved the annual budget (largely level services) and various capital items, none over \$80,000. These included repairs to the Randall Library and Highway Department roofs, a new ball field at Hale School to replace the one to be removed at Center School, and repairs to the Town Building.

The Special Town Meeting this past November approved an emergency measure in response to state legislation, which authorized low-interest loans to residents of Harvard Acres. These low-interest loans are for costs associated with installing private wells in response to the imminent bankruptcy of the Assabet Water Company. The loans are funded by the state and administered by the town of Stow.

Town Revenues

Town Revenue decreased 3% in FY11. Table 1 shows a comparison of revenue sources for FY10 and FY11. The largest source of town revenue, property taxes, increased by only 0.3% in FY11. State aid, not including state aid to the school districts, decreased by 1.6%. Local receipts decreased significantly when compared to FY10. Local receipts include excise tax, investment income, and fines collected by various town departments. The large decrease in the “Other” line item pertains to pass-through related funds for Community Preservation Fund projects, which, despite the anticipation of a large project surrounding the expansion of the Plantation and Pilot Grove developments, saw no activity in 2011. However, as these are pass-through funds, there is a corresponding decrease in Community Preservation Fund expenses (part of the Special Articles).

	FY10	FY10 % of Total	FY11	FY11 % of Total	\$ Change FY10-FY11	% Change FY10-FY11
Property Tax	\$19,357,731	86.25%	\$19,411,078	89.16%	\$53,347	0.28%
State Aid	937,640	4.18%	\$922,904	4.24%	(\$14,736)	-1.57%
Local Receipts	1,523,500	6.79%	\$1,181,000	5.42%	(\$342,500)	-22.48%
Savings and Other Funds	388,701	1.73%	\$256,009	1.18%	(\$132,692)	-34.14%
Override					\$0	
Other (CPF)	236,750	1.05%		0.00%	(\$236,750)	-100.00%
Total	\$22,444,322	100.00%	\$21,770,991	100.00%	(\$673,331)	-3.00%

Source: Town Administrator, Budget Report, Annual Town Meeting

Town Expenditures

Total Stow expenditures decreased 1.8% in FY11. These expenditures can be divided into three large groups: Education, which decreased 1.2%, Municipal Government, which increased 2.8% and other/special items, which decreased 11.4%. Table 2 shows a comparison of total Stow expenditures for FY10 and FY11.

The Municipal Government showed a marginal increase that was largely related to higher benefit costs along with a slight living wage increase (reduced from the prior year’s increase). Debt Service increased slightly in fiscal year 2011, but may almost double by the time the debt associated with the Center School project takes full effect in 2013 and 2014.

Most of the significant decrease in special article expenditures pertains to decreases in the Community Preservation Fund project expenditures. As indicated in the Revenue section above, these expenses are pass-through in nature and do not affect the tax rate directly. They are funded by Community Preservation Fund balances. These fund balances in turn are funded by 3% of the town’s property tax collections and a partial match of state aid. Use of these funds is voted on in special articles at Town Meeting.

Table 2: Town Expenditures						
	FY10 Voted	FY10 % of Total	FY11 Voted	FY11 % of Total	\$ Change FY10-FY11	% Change FY10-FY11
Municipal Govt						
General	\$948,792.00	4.30%	\$966,711.00	4.44%	\$17,919	1.89%
Public Safety	\$1,944,727.00	8.90%	\$1,999,464.00	9.18%	\$54,737	2.81%
Public Works	\$945,632.00	4.30%	\$949,753.00	4.36%	\$4,121	0.44%
Human Services	\$250,483.00	1.10%	\$258,883.00	1.19%	\$8,400	3.35%
Culture/Rec	\$271,254.00	1.20%	\$276,974.00	1.27%	\$5,720	2.11%
Town Wide Expense	\$733,200.00	3.30%	\$783,620.00	3.60%	\$50,420	6.88%
Total Municipal Govt	\$5,094,088.00	23.20%	\$5,235,405.00	24.05%	\$141,317	2.77%
Education						
Nashoba	\$13,043,439.00	59.50%	\$13,014,640.00	59.78%	-\$28,799	-0.22%
Minuteman	\$750,000.00	3.40%	\$609,427.00	2.80%	-\$140,573	-18.74%
Total Education	\$13,793,439.00	62.90%	\$13,624,067.00	62.58%	-\$169,372	-1.23%
Other						
Debt Service	\$1,275,591.00	5.80%	\$1,297,693.00	5.96%	\$22,102	1.73%
Special Articles	\$775,392.00	3.50%	\$380,312.00	1.75%	-\$395,080	-50.95%
Capital Spending	\$446,000.00	2.00%	\$376,000.00	1.73%	-\$70,000	-15.70%
Recap Items	\$789,993.00	3.60%	\$857,514.00	3.94%	\$67,521	8.55%
Total Other	\$3,286,976.00	15.00%	\$2,911,519.00	13.37%	-\$375,457	-11.42%
Grand Total	\$22,174,503.00		\$21,770,991.00		-\$403,512	-1.82%

Source: Town Administrator, Budget Report, Annual Town Meeting
 --- Departmental operating budgets include wages and expenses.

Town Expenditures: Education

The Nashoba Regional School District (“NRSD”) is Stow’s largest expense. The total NRSD expense can be divided into our assessment, \$13,014,640, and our portion of NRSD related debt \$361,419 for a total of \$13,376,059, or 61% of total town spending in FY11. When compared to FY 2010, NRSD related costs in FY 2011 were relatively flat. Nevertheless, with the cuts in state aid, to achieve a relatively flat assessment, NRSD’s budget included usage of about \$1 million in Excess and Deficiency (E&D) funds, which was a significant increase over the prior years. E&D funds can be considered part of the school’s reserves and are not necessarily a recurring revenue source. Though an increased use of these funds is expected during economically difficult periods, it should be noted that they are finite in nature and in future periods would need to be substituted by either spending cuts or additional revenue (e.g. state aid, property taxes). The \$361,419 in NRSD related debt only includes a small amount of interest on the Center School Project (about \$150,000) and will increase significantly over the next few years.

For Minuteman Career and Technical High School (“Minuteman”), the Town’s assessment for FY11 was \$609,000, a decrease of more than 19% over the prior fiscal year’s actual assessment of \$750,000. This significant decrease is due to both enrollment decreases for the current school year and a significant overall reduction (7%) in costs in the total Minuteman 2011 budget. The Minuteman assessment can vary significantly from year to year, as the enrollment can vary significantly. In fact, due to enrollment increases, we will probably take back most of the 2011 decrease in FY 2012.

The school budgets have a much heavier reliance on state aid than the municipal government budget and Stow’s assessments are net of the state aid provided to the districts. As mentioned above, FY11 saw noteworthy decreases in state aid to the school districts and, in the current economic climate, there remains a significant amount of uncertainty surrounding the amount of state aid going forward. These cuts in state aid to the districts have to be mitigated either through spending cuts, higher assessments to the towns, or some combination of both.

Table 3: Stow’s School Assessment Budgets						
	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11	% Change
Nashoba (incl. debt)	\$11,522,329	\$12,097,908	\$12,970,229	\$13,384,438	\$13,376,059	-0.1%
Minuteman	\$971,371	\$954,573	\$963,952	\$750,000	\$609,427	-18.7%
TOTAL	\$12,493,700	\$13,052,481	\$13,934,181	\$14,134,438	\$14,409,067	1.9%

Town Savings

Town savings increased \$186,503 or 15% in FY11 to \$1,365,701, making it just over 6% of the annual budget. Town savings are “rainy day” accounts that are built up during good times and drawn down in bad times. As indicated previously, town savings is a key determinant of the town credit rating and the credit rating will affect the interest rate the town would pay should it decide to borrow money for some future use. There are two major accounts that reflect the town’s savings, or stored assets: Free Cash and Stabilization Fund. Table 4 shows the status of our stored assets.

Free Cash contains unrestricted funds from operations of the previous fiscal year. It is certified by the state before the calendar year end. These funds are a necessity, not a luxury. Although the fund is available for appropriation, its primary purpose is to provide for unforeseen expenditures. Still, at various times in the past four fiscal years, the town has used Free Cash to fund certain capital articles.

The Stabilization Fund is designed to accumulate amounts for capital and other future spending purposes. A two-thirds vote of town meeting is required to appropriate funds to deposit into the stabilization fund. The level of the Stabilization Fund is examined closely by the bond rating agencies when determining the Town’s bond rating. The last Town Meeting voted to increase the Stabilization Fund by \$50,000 by transferring funds from Free Cash.

The Finance Committee would recommend that town savings remain in the range of 5% to 10%. This would require an additional \$1 million in total savings amounts before we hit the top of the range.

Table 4: Town Savings						
	FY 08	FY 09	FY 10	FY 11*	\$ Change FY10- FY11	% Change FY10- FY11
Free Cash	\$410,218	\$434,769	\$604,198	\$778,703	\$174,505	28.9%
Stabilization Fund	354,047	\$436,124	\$575,000	\$586,998	\$11,998	2.1%
Total	\$764,265	\$870,893	\$1,179,198	\$1,365,701	\$186,503	15.8%
% of Budget	3.7%	4.0%	5.3%	6.3%	0.9%	

*Balances at start of FY11

Effect on Property Taxes

The average valuation of a single-family house in Stow is \$428,744. The effect of changes to the budget on your tax bill is shown in Table 5.

Table 5: Effect on Property Taxes						
	FY 07	FY 08	FY 09	FY 10	FY 11	% Change FY10- FY11
Tax Rate (per \$1,000 of Valuation)	\$13.82	\$14.73	\$15.28	\$16.58	\$17.05	2.8%
Avg Single Family Valuation	\$483,765	\$471,013	\$463,581	\$445,062	\$428,744	-3.7%
Avg Single Family Tax Bill	\$6,686	\$6,938	\$7,084	\$7,379	\$7,310	-0.9%

Conclusion

It is our opinion that this is a fair and accurate picture of the Town's financial state. Whether you are pleased or displeased, we remind you that Town Meeting directly controls the rate of growth of town expenses. We encourage your participation.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Bernklow, Chair
Ann Deluty, Vice Chair
Christopher Sarno
Rick Connelly
Peter McManus

Patricia Heron, Associate
Rick Rollins, Associate
Bruce Walbridge, Associate
Eric Sears, Associate

CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Capital Planning Committee is charged by the Town Bylaws to annually study capital outlays proposed for the ensuing five fiscal years that involve the acquisition of land and any expenditure of \$10,000 or more having a useful life of at least three years. The Committee and the Town Administrator together consider the relative need, timing, and cost of these outlays and the effect that each will have on the financial position of the Town.

The continuing economic downturn faced by the Town made the 2011 budget year a challenging one, and the Committee worked hard to ensure that each capital outlay request brought before the Town for consideration would be a valuable expenditure.

Prior to Town Meeting in May, the Committee reviewed and recommended that the Town approve the following capital outlays:

- \$65,000 by the Building Department to fund exterior painting of the Town Building and repair of two areas of the building's trim,
- \$10,000 by Randall Library to repair the Library's slate roof, as well as \$25,000 for mold remediation and interior repairs,
- \$33,000 by the Police Department for a new gas-electric hybrid vehicle,
- \$32,500 by the Nashoba Regional School District to convert the existing softball field at Hale School to a baseball field,
- \$20,000 by the Community Preservation Committee to complete repairs to the historic stone wall around Lower Village Cemetery, and \$48,000 to fund restoration of historically-significant headstones in Lower Village and Hillside Cemeteries,
- \$37,500 by the Fire Department to replace its Command Vehicle, and \$39,000 to cover 10% of the cost to upgrade the Department's radios. The Committee thanks Fire Chief McLaughlin for his efforts to minimize the cost of this radio upgrade to the Town by applying for a federal Department of Homeland Security grant to cover the bulk of the cost,
- \$80,000 by the Highway Department: to replace a six-wheel dump truck that had been in service to the Town since 1984, and \$54,000 to replace the thirty-five year old roof of the Highway Barn.

We appreciate the efforts of Superintendent of Streets Clayton and his Department to maximize the life of the Town's equipment and to save the Town money. This year, the cost of replacing the dump truck was halved when they were able to install a new dump body onto the chassis of the Fire Department's former water supply truck.

The voters approved all of the above-listed outlays at the Annual Town Meeting in May.

The Committee also considered and recommended that the Town not approve the following outlays:

- \$25,000 by the Community Preservation Committee for an archeological reconnaissance survey,
- \$75,000 by the Community Preservation Committee for a conservation restriction on the Corzine Property owned by the Stow Conservation Trust

No action was taken on the archeological survey, and the voters approved the conservation restriction on the Corzine property.

Prior to the Special Town Meeting in October, the Committee reviewed and recommended the Town approve the Community Preservation Committee's request to expend \$45,000 to fund engineering design plan development for the Track Road portion of the Assabet River Rail Trail; the voters subsequently approved this request.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Jelinek, Chair
Ross Perry, Clerk and Finance's appointee
Jean Lynch

Dave Arsenault
Charles Kern, Selectmen's appointee

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Continued weakness in the residential real estate market is evident in the final valuations for FY 2011, which has an assessment date of January 1, 2010. Sales of real estate occurring before that date were used to determine your assessment for the current fiscal year. During calendar year 2010, residential real estate has continued on a slight decline in Stow. However, any potential value changes experienced in calendar year 2010 will not affect your tax bill until Fiscal 2012. Any weakening of the real estate market during 2010 will not be evident in your current assessment. Even though assessments may decrease, tax bills may not, because as assessments go down, the tax rate normally increases, presuming that the town's overall expenditures either remain the same or increase. For FY 2011, the average tax bill has shown a slight decrease due to judicious budgeting.

FY 2011 was an interim adjustment year, where the Assessors' office adjusts values to reflect the market, as required by the Department of Revenue. For FY 2011, the residential sector as a whole decreased from the previous fiscal year by 2.6%, and excluding new growth, the decline comes to 4.3%. The total assessed value for FY 2011 has decreased again, down to \$1,138,479,670 from \$1,170,108,445 in FY 2010. New Growth has increased slightly from last year, but remains on the low end historically. The commercial/industrial sector has fallen by 5.4%, while personal property showed a slight increase. Land values have also fallen modestly.

Seniors on fixed incomes can be particularly vulnerable in the current economy. A notebook at the Assessors' window contains information on the details of the various exemptions, deferrals,

and other programs designed to help with taxes. The 41C tax exemption of \$1000 is available for those over the age of 65 that qualify with limited income and assets. Other exemptions are also available. In addition, an article was passed at Town Meeting increasing all exemptions by up to 100% in certain circumstances. Lastly, the interest rate on Tax Deferrals is now at 4%. Do not hesitate to check with the Stow Assessors' office to see whether you qualify for any of these programs.

The Community Preservation Act (CPA) surcharge system continues to be administered by the Assessors' office. The total CPA surcharge raised during FY 2010 was \$440,307, with \$176,222 in matching funds received in September. The percentage of matching funds is no longer at 100%, because more towns take advantage of the CPA program, thus decreasing the percentage each town receives. Exemptions from the surcharge are available for certain income brackets. Please check with the Assessors' office for more information.

John Bolton has resigned from the Board of Assessors, having relocated to Colorado. John has been a valuable member of the Board and his contributions will be missed. We wish him all the best in his future endeavors. Dom Pugliese is the new chairman, and offers his extensive appraisal background to the Board. Mike Dugas, recently appointed to the vacant position, has worked as assessment director in two towns. We welcome Mike to the Board. From time to time, you may see the staff or a sub-contractor collecting data on property in Stow. We hope you will allow these representatives of the Assessors' office to do their job. Our property assessments are reliant on accurate data collection.

The Board of Assessors encourages taxpayers to ask any questions or discuss any matter that might help them better understand their assessments. The staff in the Assessors' office is available every day to assist the public.

Respectfully submitted,

Dominick Pugliese, Chairman
John E. Smith
Michael Dugas

Dorothy K. Wilbur, Principal Assessor
Louise A. Nejad, Assistant Assessor
Tina Salvo, Assessors' Clerk

FISCAL 2011 TAX RATE RECAPITULATION

TAX RATE SUMMARY

A.	Total Amount to be Raised	\$22,611,312.82
B.	Total Estimated Receipts & Other Revenue	\$ 3,200,234.44
C.	Tax Levy	\$19,411,078.38
D.	Distribution of Tax Rates & Levies	

CLASS	LEVY PERCENTAGE	LEVY BY CLASS	VALUATION BY CLASS	TAX RATES
Residential	91.3034%	\$17,722,977.14	\$1,039,470,800	\$17.05
Open Space	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Commercial	4.7181%	915,835.64	53,714,700	\$17.05
Industrial	1.9834%	384,995.82	22,580,400	\$17.05
Personal	1.9951%	387,269.78	22,713,770	\$17.05
<hr/>				
TOTAL	100%	\$19,411,078.38	\$1,138,479,670	

TREASURER'S FINANCIAL REPORT

	FY 2009	FY 2010	% Change
BEGINNING CASH BALANCE:	6,509,207	7,505,625	15.3%
<u>RECEIPTS:</u>			
Property Tax	18,522,913	19,236,746	3.9%
Community Preservation Surcharge	426,121	437,544	2.7%
Motor Vehicle & Other Taxes	898,792	837,481	-6.8%
Tax Titles & Deferrals	103,672	118,715	14.5%
Department & Misc Revenue	1,408,884	1,071,408	-24.0%
State Aid & Grants	1,249,626	2,174,273	74.0%
Bond/Note Receipts	865,000	3,000,000	246.8%
Interest on Investments	153,138	92,680	-39.5%
Offset Payroll Deductions	1,137,005	1,167,403	2.7%
TOTAL RECEIPTS:	24,765,151	28,136,250	13.6%
<u>EXPENDITURES:</u>			
Payroll	3,597,135	3,766,466	4.7%
Vendor	5,438,617	7,916,791	45.6%
School District Assessments	13,028,604	13,761,948	5.6%
Retirement Assessment	458,974	499,317	8.8%
Debt Payments	1,245,403	1,242,590	-0.2%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES:	23,768,733	27,187,112	14.4%
ENDING CASH BALANCE:	7,505,625	8,454,763	12.6%

Prepared by Pamela Landry
Treasurer-Collector

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT FY 2010

Tax & Levy Year	Tax Outstanding as of 7/1/09	New Commitments	Amount Collected	Exemptions & Abatements	Refunds	Tax Takings & Deferrals	Tax Outstanding as of 6/30/10
2010 Real Estate	\$0.00	\$19,040,289.66	\$18,679,658.46	\$64,752.70	\$35,218.95	\$101,578.08	\$229,519.37
2009 Real Estate	\$124,204.72	\$0.00	\$102,634.55	\$13,446.21	\$13,446.21	\$21,545.73	\$24.44
2008 Real Estate	\$29.23	\$0.00	\$29.23	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2010 Supplemental RE Tax	\$0.00	\$159,376.29	\$153,386.21	\$1,052.40	\$15,435.40	\$0.00	\$20,373.08
2009 Supplemental RE Tax	\$13,866.20	\$0.00	\$13,866.20	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2010 Comm Pres Act	\$0.00	\$451,832.28	\$439,014.50	\$9,308.13	\$3,614.97	\$2,313.28	\$4,811.34
2009 Comm Pres Act	\$3,054.96	\$0.00	\$2,547.78	\$403.38	\$403.38	\$507.18	\$0.00
2010 Personal Property	\$0.00	\$364,707.82	\$350,832.15	\$316.30	\$1,386.96	\$0.00	\$14,946.33
2009 Personal Property	\$2,864.72	\$0.00	\$1,087.52	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,777.20
2008 Personal Property	\$3,404.87	\$0.00	\$738.86	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,666.01
2007 Personal Property	\$895.46	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$895.46
2006 Personal Property	\$1,851.98	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,851.98
2005 Personal Property	\$671.92	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$671.92
2004 Personal Property	\$909.28	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$909.28
2010 Motor Vehicle	\$0.00	\$783,595.11	\$696,602.03	\$36,937.45	\$4,689.61	\$0.00	\$54,745.24
2009 Motor Vehicle	\$51,509.83	\$115,830.30	\$146,359.76	\$17,101.72	\$3,279.20	\$0.00	\$7,157.85
2008 Motor Vehicle	\$6,306.95	\$10.00	\$3,310.68	\$1,542.06	\$1,423.51	\$0.00	\$2,887.72
2007 Motor Vehicle	\$3,474.90	\$0.00	\$719.99	\$976.24	\$1,097.48	\$0.00	\$2,876.15
2006 Motor Vehicle	\$3,387.75	\$0.00	\$340.00	\$123.33	\$123.33	\$0.00	\$3,047.75
2005 Motor Vehicle	\$1,700.42	\$0.00	\$152.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,547.92
2004 & Prior Motor Vehicle	\$3,712.30	\$572.54	\$608.79	\$1,363.02	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,313.03
Totals:	\$221,845.49	\$20,916,214.00	\$20,591,889.21	\$147,322.94	\$80,119.00	\$125,944.27	\$353,022.07
Interest & Fees Collected:			\$59,010.34				
Total Collected:			\$20,650,899.55				

Prepared by: Pamela Landry, Treasurer-Collector

TOWN OF STOW
 COMBINED BALANCE SHEET (Unaudited)
 ALL FUND TYPES AND ACCOUNT GROUP
 June 30, 2010

	<u>Governmental Funds</u>			<u>Fiduciary Funds</u>		General Long-Term Debt Account Group	Totals (Memorandum Only)
	General Fund	Special Revenue Funds	Capital Project Funds	Trust And Agency Funds			
Assets							
Cash and Interest Bearing Deposits	\$ 1,960,375	\$ 4,597,708	\$ 1,176,286	\$ 1,306,421	\$ -		\$ 9,040,790
Cash and Investments Held by Trustees				1,021,938			1,021,938
Receivables:							
Real Estate Taxes	229,544						229,544
Personal Property Taxes	23,718						23,718
Less Allowance for Abatements and Exemptions	(289,808)						(289,808)
Motor Vehicle Excise Taxes	74,576						74,576
Tax Liens	277,008	5,940					282,948
Deferred Real Estate Taxes	2,091						2,091
Supplemental Taxes	20,373						20,373
Tax Foreclosures	140,367						140,367
Ambulance	136,687						136,687
CPA Surcharge		4,811					4,811
Due From Other Funds	11,187						11,187
Due From Other Governments		166,730					166,730
Amount to be Provided for Notes and Bonds Payable						7,540,000	7,540,000
Total Assets	\$ 2,586,118	\$ 4,775,189	\$ 1,176,286	\$ 2,328,359	\$ 7,540,000		\$ 18,405,952

TOWN OF STOW
 COMBINED BALANCE SHEET (Unaudited)
 ALL FUND TYPES AND ACCOUNT GROUP
 June 30, 2010

	Governmental Funds			Fiduciary Funds		General Long-Term Debt Account Group	Totals (Memorandum Only)
	General Fund	Special Revenue Funds	Capital Project Funds	Trust And Agency Funds			
Liabilities and Fund Equity							
Liabilities							
Warrants Payable	\$ 62,394	\$ 46,116	\$ 405,614	\$ 358	\$ -		\$ 514,482
Accrued Payroll	62,076	4,333		2,034			68,443
Amounts Withheld from Employees and Other Liabilities	43,411			122,482			165,893
Due to Other Funds				11,187			11,187
Deferred Revenue:							
Personal Property and Real Estate Taxes	(36,546)						(36,546)
Motor Vehicle Excise Taxes	74,576						74,576
Tax Liens	277,008	5,940					282,948
Deferred Real Estate Taxes	2,091						2,091
Supplemental Taxes	20,373						20,373
Tax Foreclosures	140,367						140,367
Ambulance	136,687						136,687
CPA Surcharge		4,811					4,811
Other		166,730					166,730
Notes Payable			3,000,000				3,000,000
Bonds Payable						7,540,000	7,540,000
Total Liabilities	782,437	227,930	3,405,614	136,061	7,540,000		12,092,042

TOWN OF STOW
 COMBINED BALANCE SHEET (Unaudited)
 ALL FUND TYPES AND ACCOUNT GROUP
 June 30, 2010

	<u>Governmental Funds</u>		<u>Fiduciary Funds</u>		General Long-Term Debt Account Group	Totals (Memorandum Only)
	General Fund	Special Revenue Funds	Capital Project Funds	Trust And Agency Funds		
Fund Equity						
Retained Earnings (Deficit)			(2,232,614)			(2,232,614)
Reserved for Expenditure	249,500	2,769,455	3,286			3,022,241
Reserved for Encumbrances	15,119					15,119
Reserved for Appropriation	470,211	730,563				1,200,774
Reserved for Endowment				146,045		146,045
Designated for Revolving Funds		82,828				82,828
Undesignated	1,068,851	964,413		2,046,253		4,079,517
Total Fund Equity	1,803,681	4,547,259	(2,229,328)	2,192,298		6,313,910
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	\$ 2,586,118	\$ 4,775,189	\$ 1,176,286	\$ 2,328,359	\$ 7,540,000	\$ 18,405,952

Prepared by: Julie Costello
 Town Accountant

TOWN OF STOW
 SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN FUND EQUITY
 STATE GRANTS & REVOLVING FUNDS
 June 30, 2010

	Beginning Fund Equity	Revenues	Expenditures	Ending Fund Equity
STATE GRANTS:				
Public Safety	\$ (3,088)	\$ 27,095	\$ 58,817	\$ (34,810)
Education Grant	2,469	-	-	2,469
Culture & Recreation	11,323	9,010	5,575	14,758
Council on Aging	-	5,264	5,264	-
Library	8,928	6,127	5,115	9,940
Other Grants	<u>925</u>	<u>49,368</u>	<u>48,898</u>	<u>1,395</u>
TOTAL STATE GRANTS:	<u>\$ 20,557</u>	<u>\$ 96,864</u>	<u>\$ 123,669</u>	<u>\$ (6,248)</u>
REVOLVING FUNDS:				
Recreation	\$ 18,387	\$ 128,744	\$ 125,142	\$ 21,989
Inspectors	26,024	29,827	29,231	26,620
Ambulances Services	<u>-</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL REVOLVING FUNDS:	<u>\$ 44,411</u>	<u>\$ 168,571</u>	<u>\$ 164,373</u>	<u>\$ 48,609</u>

Prepared by:
 Julie Costello
 Town Accountant

TRUST FUND FINANCIAL REPORT - FY 2010

The following Town trust funds are managed by Abbey Capital LLC and as of 6/30/10 were invested as follows:
Government Money Market Fund (8%), Certificates of Deposit (81%), and Equities (11%).

Stabilization Fund	Beginning Balance 7/1/2009	\$500,592.57	
	Disbursements	\$0.00	
	Receipts	\$70,882.03	
	Investment Earnings	\$15,523.41	
	Ending Balance 6/30/2010		\$586,998.01
Affordable Housing Fund	Beginning Balance 7/1/2009	\$243,560.19	
	Disbursements	(\$42,482.50)	
	Receipts	\$0.00	
	Investment Earnings	\$6,690.09	
	Ending Balance 6/30/2010		\$207,767.78
Cemetery Perpetual Care Non-Expendable	Beginning Balance 7/1/2009	\$107,450.00	
	Receipts	\$8,675.00	
	Ending Balance 6/30/2010		\$116,125.00
Expendable	Beginning Balance 7/1/2009	\$43,356.07	
	Disbursements	(\$1,952.49)	
	Investment Earnings	\$4,206.64	
	Ending Balance 6/30/2010		\$45,610.22
Conservation Fund	Beginning Balance 7/1/2009	\$65,168.33	
	Disbursements	(\$6,589.60)	
	Receipts	\$6,645.00	
	Investment Earnings	\$1,925.09	
	Ending Balance 6/30/2010		\$67,148.82

Mabel Hale Fund	Unexpendable Bequest		\$35,000.00
	Beginning Expendable Balance 7/1/2009	\$7,177.92	
	Disbursements	\$0.00	
	Investment Earnings	\$1,159.82	
	Ending Expendable Balance 6/30/2010		\$8,337.74
Mabel Hallock - Brookside Cemetery	Unexpendable Bequest		\$2,000.00
	Beginning Expendable Balance 7/1/2009	\$5,870.94	
	Disbursements	(\$663.12)	
	Investment Earnings	\$216.49	
	Ending Expendable Balance 6/30/2010		\$5,424.31
Mabel Hallock - Common Memorial & Flag	Unexpendable Bequest		\$1,000.00
	Beginning Expendable Balance 7/1/2009	\$548.55	
	Disbursements	(\$186.45)	
	Investment Earnings	\$42.93	
	Ending Expendable Balance 6/30/2010		\$405.03
Otto & Aina Stein Fund	Unexpendable Bequest		\$18,810.00
	Beginning Expendable Balance 7/1/2009	\$19,075.06	
	Disbursements	\$0.00	
	Investment Earnings	\$1,041.79	
	Ending Expendable Balance 6/30/2010		\$20,116.85

Town Farm Fund	Unexpendable Original Deposit		\$8,751.96
	Beginning Expendable Balance 7/1/2009	\$35,991.03	
	Disbursements	\$0.00	
	Investment Earnings	\$1,230.37	
	Ending Expendable Balance 6/30/2010		\$37,221.40
Cyrus H. Whitney Central Common Fund	Unexpendable Bequest		\$1,000.00
	Beginning Expendable Balance 7/1/2009	\$509.75	
	Disbursements	\$0.00	
	Investment Earnings	\$41.51	
	Ending Expendable Balance 6/30/2010		\$551.26
James F. Whitney Central Common Fund	Unexpendable Bequest		\$2,000.00
	Beginning Expendable Balance 7/1/2009	\$1,066.62	
	Disbursements	\$0.00	
	Investment Earnings	\$84.33	
	Ending Expendable Balance 6/30/2010		\$1,150.95
Martha G. Whitney Street Light Fund	Unexpendable Bequest		\$1,000.00
	Beginning Expendable Balance 7/1/2009	\$5,053.13	
	Disbursements	(\$153.44)	
	Investment Earnings	\$165.62	
	Ending Expendable Balance 6/30/2010		\$5,065.31
TOTAL TRUST FUND BALANCE:			\$1,171,484.64

Prepared by: Pamela Landry
Treasurer-Collector

TRUST FUNDS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE RANDALL LIBRARY

The policy of the Randall Library Trustees is to spend interest and capital gains in excess of inflation generated by the trust funds for the purchase of library materials, primarily books. Trust funds are combined and are co-managed by the Board of Trustees to target a 60%/40% split between equity and income-based securities, respectively. Highly rated, professionally managed mutual funds are primarily used as investment vehicles.

Based on the Beusch formula method of calculating annual disbursements by the Trustees, a disbursement of \$17,000 was authorized and used for the benefit of Randall Library patrons. The current and past year ending values, cash flow and fund performance for the 2010 Calendar Year are shown in the CY 2010 Report.

Respectfully submitted,

Randall Library Trustees
Robert A. Aldape (2013), Treasurer
Harold B. Donahue, Jr. (2012)
Jane Sproule Epstein (2012)
Amante Brooks Gaines (2013)
Carolyn C. Howe (2011)

John J. O'Keefe III (2013)
Timothy H. Reed (2011), Chair

Susan Wysk, Library Director
Denise, Children's Librarian

Statement of Sources & Uses of Funds, CY '10:

January 1, 2010 Opening Balance \$ **493,439.03**

Sources of Funds:

Contributions and Donations

Hale High School Fund	\$	10,000.00
Community Chest	\$	1,247.65
Stow Cultural Council	\$	1,000.00
Miscellany	\$	1,880.15

Net Investment Income \$ 7,829.06

Capital Gain \$ 50,728.57

Total \$ 72,685.44

Uses of Funds:

Books	\$	(11,392.87)
Periodicals	\$	(2,953.66)
Reference	\$	(6,655.09)
DVD	\$	(2,294.30)

Children's Programming	\$	(2,521.25)
Audio	\$	(2,871.40)
Copier	\$	(1,617.30)
Software	\$	(78.59)
Misc. Supplies	\$	(34.07)
 Total	\$	 (30,418.53)
 December 31, 2010 Ending Balance	\$	 535,705.95

Randall Library Trust Funds Statement of Assets and Liabilities, CY '10

Assets		01/01/10 Balance		12/31/10 Balance
Cash and Bank Accounts				
Family Federal Savings i-Checking Account	\$	8,370.39	\$	9,079.70
Total Cash and Bank Accounts	\$	8,370.39	\$	9,079.70
Investment Trusts				
Combined Trust Funds	\$	485,068.64	\$	526,626.25
Total Assets	\$	493,439.03	\$	535,705.95
Liabilities	\$	0.00	\$	0.00
Overall Total	\$	493,439.03	\$	535,705.95

**Randall Library Trust Funds Statement of Investment Income,
CY'10**

Investment Income:

Family Federal i-Checking Interest	\$	0.00
Combined Trust Fund Income	\$	7,829.06
Total Investment Income	\$	7,829.06

Rob Aldape
Treasurer, Randall Library Trustees

February 22, 2011

RANDALL RELIEF FUND

Balance January 1, 2010	\$ 52,768.22
Interest received	128.66
Contributions received	0
Repayments received	0
Payments	(1,500.00)
	<hr/>
Balance December 31, 2010	\$ 51,396.88
(Citizens Bank Insured Money Market Account)	

RANDALL TOWN FUND

Balance January 1, 2010	\$ 20,000.00
Previous accumulated CD interest earned	369.61
Paid to Town Treasurer	(369.61)
Current interest earned	331.15
Payable to Town Treasurer	(331.15)
	<hr/>
Balance December 31, 2010	\$ 20,000.00
(Citizens Bank 3-year Certificate of Deposit)	

Respectfully submitted,

Louise E. Peacock
Jeffrey D. Smith
Dorothy G. Sonnichsen, Treasurer
Randall Relief and Town Fund Trustees

HALE HIGH SCHOOL FUND ANNUAL REPORT
 INCOME/EXPENSE - 7/1/2009- 6/30/2010

INCOME

Dividends	\$ 10,675.20
Bond Interest	12,844.86
Mutual Fund Income	670.19
Total Income	\$24,190.25

EXPENSE

Avidia Bank – Management services	\$ 2,467.94
Greenfield Savings Bank- Management Services	\$ 4,205.99
Total Expense	\$6,673.93

HALE HIGH SCHOOL FUND PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS

Assets Held	Value	% of Portfolio
STOCKS		
ADRS	\$ 5,746.95	
Common Stock	155,550.02	
Funds – Domestic	17,478.98	
Funds – International	42,455.53	
Total Stocks	\$221,231.48	47.95%
BONDS		
Agencies	\$ 60,494.20	
Corporate	125,532.80	
Funds/ETFs	19,741.00	
Total Bonds	\$205,768.00	44.60%
MONEY MARKET		
Total Money Market	\$ 34,345.83	7.45%
Total Market Value	\$461,345.31	

Respectfully submitted,

Hale High School Fund Trustees:
 Robert F. Derby
 Ray S. Frost

Wayne A. Fletcher
 Linda E. Hathaway
 Jeffery D. Smith

EDUCATION

NASHOBA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Our faculty, staff and administration continue to teach to high expectations and our students thrive in this environment, excelling in every arena: academic, athletic and extracurricular. There are a number of events that capture the essence of last year.

We were fortunate to have grant funds to supplement our budget and help our schools move forward. We used the America's Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) grants very wisely to address immediate needs and to build capacity for the future. We wrote the grants to support professional development, training, and curriculum work where we could. We have invested heavily in supporting our math instruction for grades 5-9, reading instruction for grades K-5, and writing instruction grades K-12. Our emphasis has been and continues to be communication: be clear, be concise, and be focused on topic. This can be for the spoken as well as the written word. We have offered, and will continue to offer this spring, workshops for staff on writing across the curriculum so that kids can learn to communicate what they know, understand and are able to do in each content area. We have emphasized a few specific strategies and trained all staff in those strategies so that students are hearing the same vocabulary, seeing the same strategies and using the same schema whether it is in science, social studies, English or math. The program is called Six Traits. It is an approach for students to use to organize their thinking, content and personal style in the different genres of writing. We are very excited about this particular initiative.

In mathematics we provided training for our grade five through nine teachers in the area of "vertical acceleration." Based on the work by Mahesh Sharma, former President of Cambridge College, our teachers are working on their skills to teach students those elements of the math curriculum that will make the most difference for most kids to understand mathematics sooner and be able to "do it" with more success. The area most focused on is numeracy, where kids have to understand place value, operations and how numbers relate to one another. This training along with the district's adoption of the same K- 8 textbook series for mathematics provides us with greater consistency in vocabulary and instructional strategies in all of our schools.

This past summer we trained twenty teachers in Responsive Classroom, a focused approach for developing a community of learners. We have about 2/3 of our elementary staff already trained and we need to get everyone trained over time and keep them current in strategies that engage all learners, set the tone for the classroom and keep students connected with one another and the school.

Additionally, we have invested heavily in time and thinking to ensure a quality construction project in Stow (a new elementary school addition and renovation is occurring for a Pk-5 building). The Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Renovation/Addition of Center School, soon to house preK-5, was attended by all students and faculty, as well as some parents, community members, and state dignitaries. We are also looking at our space needs at the high school, especially outdoor space, and are awaiting a report on how we might be able to move forward to gain better use of existing fields and other spaces.

The employees of the District have been taking advantage of the Wellness Programs offered by MIIA (Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Association). Last year, many participated in the Zumba classes, the Strength and Stretch Exercise Program, a Mediterranean cooking demo, a Food and Mood cooking demo and the Pedometer Walking Program! Through these programs, we kept moving and learned about new healthy food alternatives.

The fall of 2010 brought a ten-week Heart Matters Program where the Nashoba employees set an all-time attendance record for MIIA! 53 staff members and retirees signed up and had their blood levels, weight, and blood pressure checked as a baseline entering the sessions. They attended ten meetings after school and learned about healthy choices, nutrition, stress reduction, exercise and even had a healthy cooking demonstration. At every class, the participants were introduced to a new healthy snack and were given a binder of recipes and guidelines for making healthy choices.

Nashoba Regional High School has been ranked within the top 5% of public high schools across the nation for three years running. Nashoba students performed 37th in MCAS out of 342 school Districts in 2010. Students at Nashoba are offered a wide array of challenging courses and extra-curricular offerings in a fully inclusive setting, which helps us in our goal to have each student reach their full potential.

This past summer our *Best Buddies Program* at the high school was recognized as one of the top groups in the nation for their work supporting intellectually and physically challenged youngsters. Members of the group pair off with students with disabilities and help support them in everyday activities at the high school and the community.

Fifty-three (53) students at Nashoba Regional High School earned Advanced Placement Scholar Awards in recognition of their exceptional achievement on AP Exams. The College Board's Advanced Placement Program® (AP®) provides willing and academically prepared students with the opportunity to take rigorous college-level courses while still in high school, and to earn college credit, advanced placement, or both for successful performance on the AP Exams. About 18 percent of the 1.8 million students worldwide who took AP Exams performed at a sufficiently high level to also earn an AP Scholar Award.

At Nashoba, sixteen (16) students qualified for the AP Scholar with Distinction Award by earning an average score of 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams. An additional fifteen (15) students qualified for the AP Scholar with Honor Award by earning an average score of 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams. Twenty-two (22) students qualified for the AP Scholar Award by earning by completing three or more AP Exams with scores of 3 or higher. Of this year's award recipients at Nashoba Regional High School, fifteen (15) took the tests as sophomores or juniors.

Eleven (11) students from our senior class have achieved Commended Students status in the National Merit Program. The National Merit Scholarship Program evaluates all of the PSAT scores from this graduating class's national cohort. Commended students are in the top 50,000 performers in the nation. When one considers that over 1.5 million students from the class of

2011 took the PSAT that highlights the magnitude of this achievement. Additionally, our students compete with their peers from Massachusetts, which ranks in the top of the nation for PSAT results.

It was another exciting year in 2010 for Nashoba sports teams. Participation was at an all-time high again with over 535 student-athletes participating in the high school sports program. Nashoba now offers 25 sports at the varsity level and fields a total of 42 teams on an annual basis.

The year was highlighted by Nashoba football team's Super Bowl appearance, which capped an amazing season by the Chieftains. The squad finished with an overall record of 10-3. The Chieftains won eight straight games before falling to Division I power St. John's 31-21 in the Super Bowl. Nashoba went undefeated in league play to capture the Central Mass. Division 1B regular season title.

The fall of 2010 was one of the most successful overall seasons for Nashoba sports teams in recent memory. Four teams were undefeated in the league, including football, girls' soccer, and boys' & girls' cross country. Those four combined for a 27-0 record against conference opponents in bringing home four titles to Nashoba. All qualified and had success in the post-season, including the boys' soccer team, which made the playoffs for the first time in five years. The boys' & girls' cross country teams advanced to the state finals and the girls' soccer team played in the MIAA District Semi-Finals.

Going back, the spring of 2010 also saw Nashoba teams succeed in the post-season. The boys' and girls' tennis teams combined for a regular season record of 25-7 and the girls' team advanced to the MIAA District Semi-Finals. The baseball (13-7), boys' lacrosse (9-9) and girls' lacrosse teams (9-7) also qualified for the MIAA playoffs.

There were numerous individual accomplishments during 2010 and several Nashoba student-athletes were recognized as some of the best in the state. Coby Horowitz (Stow) added to his long list of accomplishments by winning the 2-mile run in the All-State Indoor Meet in March, defeating all other competitors regardless of Division. For the first time in 30 years, the Nashoba-Clinton wrestling program had three student-athletes place in the MIAA Individual State Tournament: Josue Guerra (Clinton), Brad Lewis (Stow) and Andrew Holfinger (Clinton). Rachel Peabody (Stow), Kat Malley (Bolton) and Nick Bateman (Bolton) competed at the 2010 MIAA Alpine Ski State Championships. Peabody was the top performer for the Chieftains, and finished 22nd out of top 130 skiers in the state.

Jair Cruikshank (Lancaster), Peter Hagermoser (Lancaster) and Abby Hurd (Stow), captured individual district titles at the MIAA Central Massachusetts' District Spring Meet in May. Cruikshank set a school and meet record in the 400 meter hurdles, while Hurd won the two-mile run and Hagermoser won the shot put. Those three qualified for the State Finals in June along with Emily Clark (Stow), Casey Teska (Stow), Rachel Busch (Stow), John Ojukwu (Stow), Alex Schryver (Lancaster), and Horowitz.

Returning to fall sports, Hurd snagged her second District title of the year, winning the Girls' Division 1 District race and placing third in the state meet in November. The football team swept league MVP honors as Conor Wyand (Stow) was named league MVP, Will Hurley (Stow) was tabbed offensive MVP and Randy Patterson (Bolton) was the defensive MVP. Chelsea Roche (Bolton) and Mary Hilliger (Lancaster) were named Mid-Wach League Co-MVP's in girls' soccer and Roche went on to earn NSCAA All-Region honors.

A total of 57 Nashoba student-athletes were named to Mid-Wach League All-Star teams in 2010, but every one of our 500+ student-athletes that participated in sports deserves to be congratulated for their hard work and success. Additionally, the Nashoba Youth grade five boys' football team and girls' cheering squad won the state championships. At Hale Middle School the Girls' Cross Country team placed second in the state meet. All of our athletes worked extremely hard throughout the year and represented the school district well both on and off the fields.

At Hale Middle School its first-year robotics team placed second in its first competition against all high schools. The math team took second place at a regional event in Shrewsbury.

Nashoba works to promote authentic opportunities for writing and reading whenever possible. Ms. Grady's grade one class sent the U.S. Olympic Figure Skating Team a spirit poster. They were acknowledged by the team. Grades 1 and 5 and K and 5 have book buddy partnerships where older students read to younger students and work together on book response projects. Mrs. Sullivan's fifth grade classroom in Stow and Mrs. Gothie's fourth grade class in Bolton are pen pals. At the end of the year they will meet their pen pals via Skype. Ms. Grady, has participated in an author's celebration with Mrs. Winin and PC Penguin by reading their own books they wrote. All Grade one students at Pompositticut share their own books with parents on Author's Day at the end of the school year. Grade 5 students hosted a school museum with projects on the Maya, Aztec, and Inca. Some made videos, posters, 3-D models, and power point presentations. Two teachers from Switzerland visited Pompositticut and Center Schools to learn about American education, and share their cultural and professional practices. They spent 2 weeks in our classrooms on sabbatical.

Bringing in the community is an important part of learning for our students. The Stow Garden Club planted flowers for Memorial Day with Stow's grade one students. Our teachers on the district Early Childhood Committee are creating Lending Libraries where books and activities go home to preschool children in the community. Mrs. Plumb's second grade classroom partnered with Stow Senior Citizens to share hobbies, play games, and interview the seniors for a biography. Our schools continue to host teacher interns from various area colleges, especially Framingham State University, Boston University, Northeastern University and Clark University. We extended a hearty welcome to two teachers from Switzerland who visited Pompositticut and Center Schools to learn about American education, and share their cultural and professional practices. They spent two weeks in our classrooms on sabbatical. Our high school also sponsored several teachers from Germany along with students for a two week visit.

Our Kindergarten teachers in Stow guided by Mrs. Hass, a first grade teacher and administrative intern, prepared extensive portfolios showing evidence of required criteria from the National Association of Education for Young Children (NAEYC) for the re-accreditation process.

Our report would not be complete without mention of the faculty and administration who retired. Ken Tucker, Florence Sawyer Principal, retired after thirty-four years with the system, the last 12 as principal. Suzanne Wintle and Miriam D'Angona, elementary teachers at Florence Sawyer; Barbara Carvalho, Florence Sawyer Librarian; Nancy Merritt, Kindergarten Aide at Pompositticut; Marlene Bergart, Speech and Language Clinician at Pompositticut; April Michaud, music and band instructor at Pompositticut and Center Schools; Gail Foote, School Interventionist at Hale; Arthur Stickler, Technology & Engineering Teacher at NRHS; Pam Storm, Speech and Language Clinician at Mary Rowlandson; and Cathy Haslett, Physical Education Teacher at NRHS, all retired and were recognized for their service at a May 2010 event.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Wood, Superintendent of Schools
Brian Burke, NRSD Committee Chair

Maureen Busch, Committee Member
Lynn Colletti, Committee Member

NASHOBA REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL - - CLASS OF 2010

** Bradley James Lewis – President
** Nicole Juul-Hindsgaul – Treasurer
** Samantha Holmes Squires – Valedictorian

** Ryan James Nicoll – Vice President
** Peter Andrew CampoBasso – Secretary
** Samantha Grace Lindsay – Salutatorian

Alishia Marie Agnew
Steven Nicholas Agretelis
Camille Elise Ahearn
Sven Devin Anderson
Imaris Antonetti Garcia
Hanna Marie Arvin
Victoria Kathryn Atkinson
Dylan Matthew Aucoin
Brendon Johnston Aylaian
Brittini Marie Bashaw
Suzanna Bailey Bass
Alexander David Bates
Amanda Lincoln Bearce
Katherine Anne Bedding
Alexie Lynn Betzig
Katherine Paige Biegler
Daniel Robert Bolton
Kevin Carl Bourassa
Allison Catherine Bradley*
Courtney Bradley-Rynne
Jolie Ann Breitenwischer
Tyler Austin Brooks
Kenneth Peter Brouillette
Matthew Patrick Brown
Jillian Croft Burgoyne

Brendan Michael Burgwinkle
Nicholas Charles Butland
Christopher Francis Cacciatore
Stephanie Marie Cannon
Jacob Lawrence Carlson
Denis Wesley Caron
Shannon Marie Casey
Monica Ciruelos
Kaitlyn Alyssa Clark
Robert James Cohen
William Francis Blake Collett
Christopher Reed Comas
Grace Irene Connor
Danielle Rhea Copes
Cole Thomas Coppola
Amanda Ellen Cozzens
Valerie Linda Cozzens
Luke David Cressman
Adrienne Elise Cummings
Michael Xadreon Cummings
Nickolas Kostia Cushing
Jon Michael Cushion
Haley Marie Dalzell
Margaret Rose Dawson
Justin Donald DeBenedetto

Nicole Kristina Dellana
Michelle Marie DeNorscia
James Edward Deufel
Matthew Thomas DiMario
Maxwell Richard Dischler
Natasha Marie Don
Alexander Christopher Doucette
Bryan Daniel Dragonetti
Robert John Durben
Cassandra Diane Elworthy
Maxwell Hugh Saul Emrich
Douglas David Ernst
Anne Marie Farrell
Kelsey Jean Farrell
Scott Robert Farrell
Daniel Alfredo Fenstermaker
Regina Margaret Fenstermaker
Brian James Flaherty
Morgan Clare Flynn-Alling
Samuel Edman Frawley
Nicholas Paolo Fulciniti
Madeline Grace Gabel
Joseph Anthony Gallagher
James Paul Garvey
Courtney Nicole Giovinazzo

NASHOBA REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL - - CLASS OF 2010

Lars Arne Gjestebj
Tyler Stuart Gold
Sophia Rose Gonet
Lindsey Marie Gonzalez
Casey Marc Granese
Zoe Kae Gregerson
Douglas Edward Grosch
Zachary Scott Guerette
Kayla Anne Gusko
Peter Martin Hagermoser
Christopher Michael Haid
Chelsea Beverly Hamill
Heather Marie Hansen
Warren Brett Harris
Kyla Shae Harvey
Samuel Elston Hastings
Carolyn Hatch
Marissa Lee Hayes
Jane Susan Hedstrom
Joshua Norman Herbison
Robert John Herbison
Christine Nicole Hewitt
Timothy Michael Hill
Jessica Ann Hogan
Rachel Josephine Hole
Coby Taylor Horowitz
Denise Leisl Houseman
Rebecca Ann Humphrey
Kimberly Rita Jacaruso
Vanessa Jean-Baptiste
Maryangel Haeji Jeon
Yivan Jiang
Sara Katherine Johnstone
Tyler Lee Jones
Allison Patricia Joyce

David Thomas Julian
Zachary Jonathan King
Harold James Kirkpatrick
Chelsea Noelle Koch
Krystal Mariah Krantz-Hartford
Jennifer Devorah Kurtzer
Jennifer Nicole La Comfora
Daniel Hervey Lafond
Jonathan Langberg
Claire Rose Lavina
Taylor Morgan Leaming
Samuel James Leandres
Rory Benjamin Leland
Nicholas Raymond Lemay
Kathryn Mary Leonardi
Brandon Michael Levesque
Casey Andrew Lewis
Andrew Laurence Lincoln
Rianna Christine Linstrom
Megan Kathleen Little*
William Francis Lombardo
Stephen Michael Lombardozzi
Timothy Jonathan Lovington
Shelbee Rose MacCracken
Joseph Anthony Magdaleno
Scott Barber Mahon
Rachel Maki
Christopher Michael Marchilli
Chelcie Nicole Martin
Craig Thaddeus Martin
Stefanie Marie Martinek
Corbett John Masters
Samuel Bradford Masters
Audrey Lynn Mazzola
Christopher Gerard McAndrews

Brigid Marie McCarter
Joseph Thomas McGillicuddy
Tyler William Medeiros
Joseph John Melanson
Jeniffer Adrienne Mendes Alves
Amy Kaitlin Millet
Ericka Gloria Morgan
Matthew John Morrison
Calandra Margarita Mpelkas
Stephanie Marie Mudgett
Alyssa Marie Muldoon
Meghanne Michelle Nadreau
John Brideau Nagle
Matthew Ross Nixon
Caitlin Nicole Norman
Richard Albert Nutting
Jamie Lynne O'Connor
Kelsey Elizabeth O'Donnell
Elizabeth Ann O'Ryan
Bernadette Chidiebere Ojukwu
Thomas Christian Oliver
Sophonie Marthe Omeler
Benjamin Jared Oxenberg
Taylor Marie Paglia
Daniel Steven Paladini
Christopher Earl Parenteau
Cody Brian Payson
Abigail Rose Peacock
Noah Peduzzi
Kathryn Jeanne Pesanelli
Jeffrey Samuel Pieper
Jennifer Marie Pisano
Diane Marie Polewarczyk
Elizabeth Rose Pollastri
James Andrew Porteus

NASHOBA REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL - - CLASS OF 2010

Robert Patrick Publicover
Joseph William Quirk
Katherine Rainha
John William Ribeiro
Alexa Donna Riccio
Rebecca Jeanne Rixon
Alison Elisabeth Rizzi
Christopher David Roche*
Steven Michael Rodgers
Lindsey Grace Rundlett
Kaitlin Theresa Ryan
Kellie Faye Sahagian
Lawrence Joseph Salvo
Luke Hyma Scanlan
Nicholas John Scannell
Eric Charles Schryver
Cassie Elizabeth Sefton

Ellyn Marie Sherman
Amy Jae-In Shin
Katrina Lynn Simkewicz
Shelby Louise Sirois
Achan Sookying
Nichole Kristine Spilios
Colleen Leigh Stevenson
David W. Stewart-Owen
Tyler James Stockhaus
Tyler Andrew Sullivan
Oliver Roy Taylor
Desiree Jean Tetreault
Jess Christian Thomas
Rebekah Ellen Tobia
Harrison Michael Traylor
Nicole Renee Tremblay
Emily Josephine Trudeau

Maryssa Irene Trudeau
Joshua Robert Velten
Michael Andrew Vittorioso
Kathryn Alta Wachs
Benjamin Karl Walbridge
Brent William Walkoff
Zachary Howard Wassall
Trevor James Weatherbee
Shannon Jean Wheeler
Christopher Ryan Wilson
Kirsten Lee Winin
Deanna Nicole Witkowski
Britney Perilli Wuorio
Christopher James Wysocki

* Certificate of Completion

** Inducted into National Honor Society

MINUTEMAN REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

About Minuteman

Minuteman is a four-year career and technical high school serving the member towns of: Acton, Arlington, Belmont, Bolton, Boxborough Carlisle, Concord, Dover, Lancaster, Lexington, Lincoln, Needham, Stow, Sudbury, Wayland, and Weston. Minuteman combines rigorous academics in preparation for college with relevant career and technical programs. The school also provides career development programs for adults through the Community Education program.

Enrollment

As of October 1, 2010, twenty-nine (29) high school students were enrolled at Minuteman providing a full time equivalent (FTE) of twenty-nine (29) residents of Stow.

This fall, Minuteman experienced a 60% increase in the Freshman Class. New recruitment and communications strategies were executed and have included students, parents, alumni and advisory committee members speaking to parents, interested students and community groups about the value add of a Minuteman education. As the 2011-2012 Recruitment Activities have evolved we have seen an additional increase in interested 8th graders. All indications are that student interest in Minuteman is increasing from our member communities.

Multiple Avenues of Enrollment

Minuteman offers a unique program allowing student enrollment on a half day-every day basis. Currently, no Nashoba Regional High School students take advantage of this design. Juniors and Seniors are encouraged to visit minuteman.org for more information.

Minuteman offers 'Post Graduate' programs to Stow residents of any age who are seeking to enhance their own economic opportunity via skill development. Beginning in FY12 Member community Post-Graduate Students will be charged a partial tuition that will escalate over several fiscal years to reflect the estimated operating costs.

2010 Stow Graduates and Awards

Victoria Dodge, Biotechnology
Michael Jagger, Drafting
Daniel Maloney, Carpentry
Kenneth March, Biotechnology
Katherine Mikoski, Health Assisting

At the 2010 graduation, Katherine Mikoski received the Bonnie Hilla Memorial Award and the Friends of Minuteman Award. Kenneth March received the Department of the Army Award, Massachusetts Association of Vocational Administrators Award, Minuteman Attendance Award, Minuteman Drama Club Award, Minuteman Parent Association -Student Athlete Award, Minuteman Parent Association N.H.S. Award, Minuteman Principal's Award, Stow Lions Club Award, and the Minuteman Parent Association- Community Service Award. Victoria Dodge received the Stow Lions Club Award and the Friends of Minuteman Award.

These awards are given to students of superior academic achievement and significant participation in school or community activities.

SkillsUSA

Katie Mikoski competed in the Costello Family Community Service and the Tech Prep – Health categories. She received the Silver Medal in both categories. Kenneth March was a Legacy Award Winner and a National Voting Delegate.

Class of 2010 Graduate Achievement Highlights

- 100% successfully passed the state-required MCAS in English and Math.
- 25% of the class of 2010 earned the John and Abigail Adams Scholarships.
- 72% college bound or advanced Technical Training, 19% career bound and 5% military. Overall, graduates achieved a 96% positive placement rate.
- 100% of Dental graduates passed the National Dental Board examination.
- 100% of Early Education and Care program completers were certified by the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care.
- 100% of Cosmetology graduates passed State Board examinations.
- Health Occupation graduates achieved 100% in college acceptance.
- Commencement Student speakers:
 - Valedictorian, Adam Strandberg, a Biotechnology graduate from Tewksbury, was honored with the DeLuca Family Award, the Minuteman National Honor Society Award, the MPA - Science Technology Academic Scholar Award and was a Friends of Minuteman Award recipient. Adam is attending Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Cambridge, MA.
 - Salutatorian, Ivan Yu, a Pre-Engineering graduate from Billerica, was honored with the Minuteman Attendance Award, the Minuteman National Honor Society Award, the Murphy Insurance Agency, and was a Friends of Minuteman Award recipient. Ivan is attending Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, NY.
 - Senior Class President, Dianna Willms, a Pre-Engineering graduate from Arlington, was honored with the Comcast Leaders and Achievers Scholarship, the Marine Corps Athlete Certificate, the Minuteman Drama Club Award, the MPA /Elaine Karkos Award, the MPA Science Technology Award, and was a Friends of Minuteman Award recipient. Dianna is attending Western New England College in Springfield, MA.

District Leadership

- In December of 2010, Middlesex County District Attorney, Gerard Leone, recognized Superintendent, Edward Bouquillon with the Martin Meehan Education Leadership Award in achieving exemplary status in regards to school safety, protection and education of its students.
- In January of 2011, the Lexington Chamber of Commerce recognized Minuteman in its efforts to promote Workforce and Adult Education programs with the 2011 Community Initiative Award.

- The New England Association of School and Colleges (NEASC) approved the Decennial Re-accreditation of Minuteman in November of 2009 with a concern regarding the facility.

Financial and Asset Management

- The Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) invited Minuteman to the Feasibility phase of a renovation project. As of August 15, 2010, 16 of 16 member towns approved the Feasibility Study request of \$724,000. The first phase of the project includes the completion of an Enrollment Study, Strategic Plan, and a review of the Regional District Agreement. In late spring the district will continue the Feasibility Study to provide member communities with further details regarding the potential project scope.
- The financial management software system, BudgetSense, was fully implemented in the Business Office. A new Director of Business and Operations replaced two administrators. This position oversees all areas of non-instructional support services provided to the school and will continue to improve effectiveness and transparency in these areas.
- Cosmetic upgrades continued in the school, relocating the Early Education Child Care Center, refurbishing of hallway areas, three classrooms, and removal of dilapidated bleachers and out buildings on the property.

Curriculum and Instruction

- Since 2008 all 9th grade students have studied English and Math every day, rather than the long-established “week-on-week-off” schedule, thus providing more consistent and concentrated instruction in preparation for MCAS as well as project-based learning and academic and technical integration.
- The Strategic Planning process has identified several new programs that Minuteman will be offering including: Criminal Justice/Bio-Security, Animal Science and Technical and Performing Theater Arts Cluster. Two programs were phased out in 2010 including Office Technology and Auto Body Repair. In 2010, Hospitality Management gained Chapter 74 State Approval. A Barbering Program is in its second year of operation under the umbrella of the currently approved Cosmetology program.

Assessment and Program Evaluation

- Minuteman offers a Non-traditional Exploratory Program through which all students learn about the viability of men and women in non-traditional careers, such as Automotive Technology, Carpentry and Construction, Computer Science, and Engineering for women and in Medical Careers, Cosmetology / Barbering for young men.

Professional Development

- The Minuteman staff has prioritized professional development for the 2009 – 2012 school years; including summative and formative assessment methodologies. In addition, Minuteman is in its third year of creating a Professional Learning Community. School-wide goals being implemented include; teacher-to-teacher peer observations, 9th Grade Executive

Function support, Reading Consultancies, and Academic-Career and Technical curriculum integration.

Teaching Faculty Recognition

- Environmental Technology teacher Emily Blume was awarded the 2010 Ocean Stewardship Teacher of the Year Award from the New England Aquarium.
- Social Studies teachers accepted an invitation to participate in a Teaching American History Grant, awarded by the U.S. Dept. of Education. Other members of the collaborative are Lexington, Woburn, Burlington, Bedford, and Somerville Public Schools.

Student Access, Participation and Support

- Minuteman reorganized the assignment of guidance counselors to provide incoming 9th grade students with a dedicated guidance counselor. Our research has shown that many freshmen need additional support as they adjust to High School.
- A freshman Executive Function initiative was launched this year. Students received a master binder to enhance their planning and organization skills. Direct instruction includes the development of study skills and strategies with particular emphasis on: pre-reading, time management, unit organization, note-taking, and test preparation
- This is the second year of supporting a full-time Reading Specialist. In addition to working with the students on his own caseload, he consults with academic and CTE teachers toward the development and application of a school-wide reading program.
- Enrollment has increased in Art (50%) and Music (200%)!
- Enrollment in Honors courses has increased 24%.
- Minuteman offers 16 sports with three levels (Varsity, Junior Varsity and Freshmen) throughout the school year. Over the past 7 years the number of participants has doubled in many of the sports offered. Minuteman students have access to more than 20 clubs and activities.
- The Minuteman Parent Association (MPA) meets monthly and supports all aspects of the Minuteman community. In addition, they assist in fundraising for scholarships awarded at graduation. The goal of the MPA is to help support student access and achievement in all areas including but not limited to academic, vocational, athletic, and extra-curricular activities.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Edward Bouquillon, School Superintendent
Alice DeLuca, Stow representative and Vice Chair to Minuteman School Committee

PUBLIC SAFETY

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Stow Police Department continues to apply for grant funding to purchase equipment and cover costs associated with training of our Police Officers and Dispatchers. The Police Department's most significant goal for the year was to refurbish and upgrade the Dispatch Center with newer equipment, console, flooring and additional cabinets at an estimated cost of \$35,000.00. We accomplished this goal by applying for and receiving funding from the "E911 Support and Incentive Grant". We purchased the new equipment in June 2010 with the first grant approval of \$17,274.00 and received a second grant of \$17,275.00 in July 2010 to cover the installation of the new Dispatch Center equipment. The Dispatchers helped to set up an interim Dispatch Center in the Report Room, with technical support from Paul Yannoni and Detective Sallese. Moving all Police & Fire radios, E911 phones and other essential equipment to the interim Dispatch Center went smoothly. And as a result, the Police Department continued to operate smoothly while this important project was in progress. After this, the former Dispatch Center was then stripped to the floor and walls before the new console was constructed and all the dispatch equipment was re-installed in the new console. I wish to thank the dispatchers for their patience and support during this major project.

The Police Department applied for the State 911 Department Training Grant and received notification that we were eligible for \$6,000.00 to cover Dispatcher Training costs. The Police Department also applied for the Statewide Bicycle Helmet Grant Program and received 75 (seventy-five) bicycle helmets, which were distributed through a grant from the Executive Office of Public Safety, Highway Division to Stow residents during the year and at Springfest.

The Police Department was able to upgrade and repair the security system with the \$4,000 that was approved at Town Meeting. All cameras surrounding the building and interior are now being recorded including visual and audio in the booking and cell areas.

The Police Department continues to do its part in conserving energy in as reasonable a manner as possible. When older lighting fixtures wear out, they are replaced with modern, more energy-efficient units, as a part of the Department's ongoing normal facilities maintenance program. The Stow Energy Working Group installed recording meters to the Department's electrical panel recording in order to measure and monitor the Department's energy consumption; The Department has yet to receive the Group's report and recommendations at the writing of this Department's Annual Report.

This year we purchased our first hybrid vehicle, a 2011 Ford Fusion. The Police Chief and other members of the Police Department will use this vehicle in the performance of their duties. While the Police Department's new Ford Fusion Hybrid makes a nice addition to our police department, it is important to bear in mind that the Ford Fusion is neither designed nor built for police patrol duty. In contrast, the universal Ford Crown Victoria is one of the very few vehicles which are designed and purpose-built for the Police Service, equipped to meet the demands of

extended usage, higher road speeds, radio equipment, and other special requirements of high-usage and extended duty-cycle vehicles.

This year the Police, Fire and Board of Health acquired a “Sign Trailer” from a NERAC Equipment Distribution Project Grant. The Fire Chief received an allocation of \$12,094.61 and offered to share this funding to be used toward the purchase of the sign trailer. The Police Department and Board of Health each provided funds to help purchase the Sign Trailer, which may be programmed to advise Stow residents of an event or situation, as well as for other purposes. The Police Department recently used the Sign Trailer to advertise the Flu Clinic, new laws with regard to teenager cell phone usage, and was instrumental in warning the public of the road-paving project on Great Road in the fall. This important purchase was made possible by several departments cooperating toward a common goal.

The D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) Program continues at Center School in the fifth grade with Officer Darren Thraen instructing the students. Don Taranto of D&D Farms of Stow graciously donated funds to purchase the D.A.R.E. graduation t-shirts for the students. At the beginning of the school year, the department had no funds to run the program. The Department applied for and received a grant of \$1,862.00 from the Alice Eaton Fund, to continue the D.A.R.E. Program in Stow. The Department is thankful for the Fund’s support by subsidizing the continuation of the D.A.R.E. Program for Stow’s students. This year the D.A.R.E. Program is no longer being taught at the Hale School, due to unforeseen time constraints at the school.

Police Officer Thomas Maskalenko submitted his notice that he will leave the Stow Police Department in order to return to Pepperell Police Department after serving with the Department for the last year and a half. He will return to his hometown and his family. Thomas Maskalenko is a great Officer and will be missed. The Department is actively working to fill Officer Maskalenko’s position.

We also hired Nancy Campbell as a part-time dispatcher. She currently is a full-time dispatcher for the Town of Concord and brings many years of dispatching experience with her.

Dispatcher Sherry Morton-Pelly resigned from the Police Department this year. Sherry was our dispatch supervisor and was instrumental in the Dispatch Center Refurbishment Project. Sherry left the Police Department in order to care for her children and to pursue a new career. The police department wishes Sherry all the best for her years of service to our Police Department.

This year we had a total of eleven house breaks. These crimes were committed during the day time. In most cases the stolen property is sold to support a drug habit. To help with the investigation of these crimes, the Detective Division has implemented new investigative techniques over the last few years. The adoption of the State Police Fusion Center, Coplink, NESPIN and the NorthEast information sharing network, coupled with monthly detective meetings and specialized training has increased the clearance rate of crime within the boundaries of Stow. In 2010, of those 11 house breaks that were investigated, four (4) resulted in arrests, four (4) a suspect was identified but we lacked enough evidence to prosecute and three (3) remain unsolved. The Police Department continues to urge residents to call and report any suspicious activity in your neighborhood.

This will be my last annual report for the Stow Police Department as I have decided to retire. I joined the department in 1976 and feel that the time has come for me to move on and spend time doing new things. Being the Police Chief in my hometown of Stow has been a great honor and privilege. I am happy to say during my six years as Chief we were able to make many significant changes in the Department including improvements and innovations in technology, facility renovations as well as other upgrades within the Police Department, and I especially want to thank all those who contributed time and effort in applying for the grants that made many of these projects possible. Most important to me was the hiring of excellent police officers and dispatchers. I don't have enough space to list everyone who helped me to achieve the various goals that I have had during the last six years.

I would like to extend a special heartfelt thank you to my administrative assistant Rachel Belanger. She has been employed with this department for 29 years. Thank you, Rachel, for all the assistance and information you have provided me during my tenure as Police Chief, and especially for helping the department apply for grants that allowed us to make all our goals a reality. Your loyalty and dedication to this department will not be forgotten.

In closing, I also wish to thank the Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator, and all other departments. Most significantly, I wish to thank members of the Fire and Highway Departments for their continued support of the Police Department and to the residents of Stow.

And finally, but certainly not least, I am grateful for all our Police Officers and dispatchers who have faithfully served the department, and for their continued support throughout this last year.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark H. Trefry, Chief of Police

Rachel R. Belanger, Administrative
Assistant

Full-Time Officers

William L. Bosworth, Sergeant
Ralph Marino, Sergeant
Timothy Lima, Sergeant
Steven B. Sturtevant, Detective
Gary P. Murphy, Prosecutor
David J. Goguen, Patrolman
Darren J. Thraen, D.A.R.E. Officer
Sean M. Collins, Patrolman
Michael Sallese, Detective
Thomas Maskalenko, Patrolman (Resigned)

Special Police Officers

Sherry J. Morton-Pelley (Resigned)
John Fantasia
Jonathan Butler
James F. Finneran
Robert F. Blanton
Michael Smith
Lee Heron
John Connors
Enrico Maldari

Public Safety Dispatchers

Sherry J. Morton-Pelley (Resigned)
John Fantasia
Jonathan Butler
Darlene Trefry
Justine St. John – part-time
Nancy Campbell – part-time

Police Matrons

Deborah L. Richardson
Rachel R. Belanger
Darlene D. Trefry
Phyllis Tower
Richard Tower

Auxiliary Police Officer

Darlene Trefry



POLICE DEPARTMENT STATISTICS

<u>Activity</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
Accidental 911 Calls	95	110	120				
911 Calls	869	1215	1469	Domestic Disturbances	13	11	6
Alarms	188	194	224	Found/Lost Property	56	51	60
Animal Calls	191	204	216	General Complaints	198	207	298
Annoying Calls	11	5	13	House Checks	1069	1418	1741
Assaults	27	18	22	Larcenies	36	35	29
Assist Citizens	448	476	394	Medical Calls	353	348	298
Assist Other Agency	288	220	250	Missing Persons	6	3	3
Auto Theft	1	1	2	MV Accidents	101	96	105
Burglary	12	12	16	MV Stops	3487	3289	2411
Bylaw Violations	8	19	12	Suspicious Activity	394	317	258
Citations	2455	2312	1207	Threats	3	1	4
Disturbances	13	18	24	Vandalism	60	30	31
Disabled MV Calls	108	92	97				
				TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE			
					17,756	16,996	13,993

FIRE/RESCUE DEPARTMENT

The Fire Department provides the Town of Stow with Emergency Fire, Rescue and Emergency Medical Services (EMS). The dedicated individuals of this department work tirelessly, around the clock, responding to a wide range of emergency calls.

Our new Command vehicle went into service in August 2010. This new vehicle has proven to be a great addition to our emergency fleet. It is equipped with four-wheel drive and multiple radios so we can communicate with Police, Highway and surrounding area fire departments. We are very thankful to the taxpayers in Stow.

2010 was again a very busy year for the Fire Department. Your department responded to 900 combined fire and medical calls. Some of the major calls we answered are as follows. We responded to structure fires on Hudson Road, Sandy Brook Road, Warren Road and two fires on Great Road. We responded mutual aid to structure fires in Harvard, Hudson, Boxborough, Bolton and to assist Concord twice and Acton once with fire station coverage assignments during recent fires. We also responded to a multiple alarm fire at Cavicchio Greenhouses in Sudbury, a brush fire in Bolton at Camp Resolute, an eight alarm fire in Marlborough, a serious motor vehicle accident and early morning structure fire in Maynard.

The department responded to 70 motor vehicle accidents. Fire Prevention was once again a major focus for your Fire Department in the year 2010. Under the direction of Captain John Paul

Benoit, the Fire Department completed 343 inspections for smoke detectors, wood stoves, oil burners and propane tank installation for all new construction as well as homes being sold. Our department also issued 486 Open Burning Permits.

The Fire Department continues to upgrade our education program for the children of Stow. During Fire Prevention Week, the Fire Department, in conjunction with the S.A.F.E. program, visited schools and day care centers to teach the children about general safety. At other times during the year, again working with the S.A.F.E. program, we performed other educational events (such as our annual Fire Prevention Week open house in October) where the children and adults learned about fire prevention. The Fire Department members also conducted many tours and safety talks throughout the year. We also participated in a Juvenile Firesetter prevention coalition.

Training for our emergency personnel continues to be a major focus. As the scope of our jobs continues to change and broaden, it is essential that your Fire Fighters and E.M.Ts be properly trained in all areas of Firefighting and E.M.S. services as well as Hazardous Materials, Confined Space Rescues, Auto Extrication, Firefighter & E.M.T. Safety and Survival, and Water & Ice Rescue. Members of the department conduct training drills monthly and on weekends. We also attend classes offered by the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy and the National Firefighting Academy. Our firefighters conduct an extensive recruit class every year to recruit and train new firefighters. Ongoing EMS training is continuous throughout the year. All our EMTs must complete a recertification class every two years along with 28 hours of continuous education hours approved by OEMS.

Apparatus and Maintenance

Stow Fire is fortunate to have an excellent mechanic on staff as a full time firefighter/EMT. Firefighter Greg Vogel holds the position of Department Mechanic and other members of the department assist when possible. He does an excellent job keeping everything running, saving the Fire Department and the Town of Stow substantial money and minimizing equipment down time. We continue to provide maintenance to all our equipment and current apparatus in-house whenever possible.

Grants

Last year, we applied for a grant to move the Stow Fire Department over to a new radio frequency. The federal grant will defer the cost from our taxpayers to funding provided by a Home Land Security grant through FEMA. In order to enhance our chances of gaining the funding, we entered into a three-town regional grant application with Boxborough Fire, Littleton Fire and Stow Fire. FEMA places a higher award status to regional grants involving more than one community. The Town was gracious enough to provide us with the 10% grant co-pay last year. We are hopeful that we will receive the grant funding before the end of fiscal 2011.

SCBA Upgrade. We applied for a similar FEMA grant this year for updating our self contained breathing apparatus (SCBAs). The cost of upgrading the equipment to current NFPA standards is \$120,000 with a 5% co-pay (\$6,000). We do anticipate some funding from FEMA for the coming calendar year. The cost to replace all our air packs would be approx. \$180,000.

This past year we were awarded funds from US Fish & Wildlife, MA Department of Conservation & Recreation - Forestry and SAFE funding from the Department of Fire Services. In 2010 we finalized our turnout gear which was funded jointly by a \$53,000 FEMA Grant and a matching amount from the Town. All our firefighters are now equipped with the NFPA compliant gear. This is a vital component in ensuring firefighter safety.

Thanks from the Chief

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of the Stow Fire Department for your help and support during this past year. Your dedication, commitment and professionalism make a department that we can all be proud of.

I would also like to thank all the citizens of the Town of Stow, the business community, the Town Administrator, the Board of Selectmen, Building Inspector, Board of Health, Planning Board and all other town departments for their support of the Fire Department. I would especially like to thank the Police Department, Communications Center and the Highway Department for all your help and support during the year. The State Fire Marshall, Stephen Coan also deserves special thanks for his continued help and support over this past year.

A special thanks to the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) and the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) for all their ongoing support especially with emergency shelter operations.

Thank you all! I look forward to another year of progress and teamwork in the Town of Stow.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike McLaughlin, Fire Chief

Fire / Rescue – Full-time

Michael McLaughlin, Chief
John Paul Benoit, Captain
Barry Evers, Lieutenant
Mark W. Guerin, Lieutenant
Michael Stevens
Gregory A. Vogel

Jeremy Fiorvanti
Carolyn Fisher
Jason Galofaro
Jonathan Gray
Tim Gray
James Kissane
Walter Latta
Christopher Lazuka
Kristin Clayton Lazuka
Matt Magazu
Scott Morse
Jonathan Murphy
Tim Neufell
Frank Patterson
Liana Pratt
James Ruggiero
Michael Scimeca
Suzanne Siewierski
Bob Smart

Fire / Rescue –On-call

Kris Blakley
Gerry Byrne
James Byrne
Christopher Camelio
Richard Connelly
Sheila Crowley
Gage Cummings
Charles Dunnigan
Scott Dwinells
Jonathan Evers

Larry Stafford
George Taylor
Michael Trioli
Nick Trioli
Keith Villa

Honorary Firefighters
Steve Landry
Eddie Warren

Apprentice Firefighters
Erick Benoit
Shannon Eichorn
Mark Latta
Andrew Lenox
Jeffrey Lyons
George Nunez
Stephen Stille
Matthew Vickery



STOW FIRE-RESCUE DEPARTMENT
January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2010

Run Summary	# Runs	Run Summary	# Runs
Building Fires	9	Service call	18
Fire other	2	Lock-out	12
Structure fires not in a building	1	Water problem	62
Cooking fires	5	Water or steam leak	2
Chimney fires	2	Smoke or order removal	4
Fuel burner/boiler malfunction	3	Animal problem	1
Mobile property	1	Animal rescue	2
Transport vehicle fires	1	Public service assistance	11
Natural vegetation fires	1	Assist police	7
Forest, woods or wildland fires	1	Public service assistance	3
Brush or brush and grass mixture fires	7	Assist invalid	3
Outside equipment fires	1	Unauthorized burning	5
Overpressure rupture of steam boiler	1	Cover assignment	4
Rescue, emergency medical call (EMS) calls	232	Good intent call	7
Medical assists	4	No incident found upon arrival	3
EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	199	Authorized controlled burning	2
Vehicle accidents with injury	28	Smoke or odor of smoke	11
Motor vehicle/pedestrian accidents	2	False alarm	7
Motor vehicle accident with no injuries	36	Direct tie to FD, malicious false alarm	2
Rescue or EMS standby	2	System malfunctions	3
Hazardous condition	2	Smoke detector activation due to malfunctions	4
Gasoline or other flammable liquid spills	3	Alarm system sounded due to malfunctions	36
Gas leak (Natural gas or LPG)	5	CO detector activation due to malfunction	19
Oil or other combustible liquid spill	1	Unintentional transmission of alarm	1
Carbon monoxide incidents	8	Sprinkler activation with no fire	2
Electrical wiring/equipment problems	3	Smoke detector activation no fire	10
Heat from short circuits	1	Alarm system sounded due to malfunctions	33
Power lines down	8	Carbon monoxide activation, no CO	5
Arcing, shorted electrical equipment	1	Special type of incident	3
Accident other	1	<u>Citizen compliant</u>	<u>3</u>
Vehicle accident, general cleanup	1		
Attempted illegal burning	3	Total	575

FOREST FIRE WARDEN

The Stow Fire Department responded to many Brush Fires and investigations of outdoor smoke calls in the year 2010.

The Town Forest and other conservation lands were patrolled regularly for fallen trees and limbs that block the fire roads. Brush cutting was also performed where required to keep the roads open for Fire Apparatus.

The open burning season was once again very busy for the Fire Department. 486 burning permits were issued from January 15 until April 30, 2010. Those who wish to burn brush must be sure to come to the Stow Fire Station to obtain a burning permit. For the day you wish to burn, you call the Fire Department before you begin burning (after 9:00 am). The number to call is 897-4537. We allow burning between 10:00 am and 4:00 pm with permission from the Fire Department depending on staffing and weather conditions. This allows us to have the appropriate personnel available in case your fire gets out of control.

I would like to thank the State Forest Fire Division and the Sudbury Fire Tower for all their help in locating and extinguishing some of these fires.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike McLaughlin, Forest Warden

EMERGENCY SERVICES

We are the point of contact for the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC). The LEPC is comprised of a number of many cross-functional departments that have demonstrated the ability to professionally manage emergency incidents in Stow. We are extremely fortunate to have such a talented group of volunteers. They have handled everything from desktop exercises to real emergencies opening and managing emergency shelters. In the beginning, the LEPC met monthly until we were operational ready, the group now meets on a quarterly basis or sooner if an emergency arises. Our meetings take place at our primary shelter, which is the Hale School.

The Stow Emergency Management Team responded to several recent major weather-related natural disasters. In 2009 we had the Ice Storm, 2010 the March spring floods and the countless winter snow storms in the winter of 2010/2011. We worked closely with the Highway, Fire and Police Departments to mitigate and manage the town's recovery efforts. After two incidents, a representative from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) was on site in Stow for several weeks. We collected and consolidated the necessary paperwork to apply for reimbursement of Stow's expenses. This financial recovery effort has proved to be very successful in returning thousands of dollars for the Town's out-of-pocket disaster expenditures back to the general fund for Police, Fire, and Highway.

The LEPC recently received approval from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), FEMA and MEMA Region I for Stow’s Hazard Mitigation Plan. This dynamic plan will be reviewed, revised as appropriate and resubmitted every five years. This formal approval provides us with the authorization to apply for Federal and State Grants.

I would like to thank all the LEPC members and town departments for their time and professionalism. I also want to thank the Nashoba Regional School District for their support.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike McLaughlin, Emergency Management Director

Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

	Name	Department
1	Baranofsky, Ann-Marie	Nashoba Regional School District
2	Brownfield, Sharon	Medical Reserve Corp (MRC)
3	Chief Bill Bosworth	Acting Stow Police Chief
4	Clayton, Michael	Stow Highway Superintendent
5	Cullen, Linda	Town Nurse
6	Fantasia, John	Stow Communications Center
7	Funkhouser, Sharon	Stow Council on Aging
8	Hathaway, Linda	Stow Town Clerk
9	Kern, Charlie	Stow Board of Selectmen
10	King, George	Nashoba Regional School District
11	Martin, Craig	Building Inspector
12	McLaughlin, Mike	Stow Fire Chief
13	McLaughlin, Susan	Office of the Board of Selectmen
14	Norton, Bob	Stow Wiring Inspector
15	Perry, Patricia	Stow Conservation Committee
16	Perry, Ross	Medical Reserve Corp (MRC)
17	Rising, Marcia	Board of Health/MRC
18	Robart, Sarah	Medical Reserve Corp (MRC)
19	Ryan, Tom	Board of Selectmen
20	Spratt, Bill	Nashoba Regional School District
21	Stadolnik, Rebecca	Medical Reserve Corp (MRC)
22	Tobey, Elizabeth	Stow Information Technology
23	Toole, Alyson	Stow Council on Aging
24	Trahman, Patricia	Nashoba Regional School District
25	Trefry, Bruce	Emerson Hospital
26	Wallace, Jack	Stow Board of Health
27	Wrigley, William	Stow Town Administrator

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

ASSABET RIVER RAIL TRAIL COMMITTEE

With the purchase of the trail easement from the Maynard line to Sudbury Road completed in 2009, our committee continued to explore routes to continue the trail to Hudson. In the spring, Clark University graduate students undertook a project to use GIS and other data to map potentially suitable routes to make that connection from Sudbury Road to Hudson. Although the results were interesting, the committee felt that none of the routes were feasible.

In June the committee reported to the Selectmen that we were stymied in our efforts to find a suitable route to connect to the trail in Hudson, and had gone as far as we could. In July the Selectmen voted to dissolve the Rail Trail Committee, and voted to form a Multi-use Path Committee.

Rail Trail activities continued. Several representatives of the Town attended an August meeting of the Metropolitan Planning Organization in Boston, where we learned that monies were still available for the design and construction of the Stow portion of the trail, and that Stow might be able to join the existing Acton-Maynard design project, which was expected to restart soon. The November Special Town Meeting approved the expenditure of \$46,000 of CPA funds as Stow's share of the expected design cost of the "Track Road" portion. The Selectmen held a public meeting for discussion and input about trail uses and users, trail surfacing options and trailside amenities. They then developed a questionnaire for use at other public meetings and online for additional public input. The questionnaire closed on January 15, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Rising, Chairman

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE

The Elementary School Building Committee was formed following the 2007 Annual Town Meeting, which voted to support an addition/renovation at Center Elementary School. As outlined by the selectmen, the ESBC duties are to:

Direct and oversee the renovation and addition to the Center School, as recommended by the School Building Task Force and approved by the residents of Stow in May 2007. To include bringing a firm estimate of cost to Town Meeting for approval. To include hiring design services, contractor and other professionals as required. The Committee shall use the final report of the School Building Task Force as well as the Stow Schools Master Plan in their work. Committee members will need to be versed in the requirements of the Mass. School Building Authority (MSBA) and ensure that the building project meets all the requirements for potential reimbursement.

2010 opened with the committee completing the design development phase, receiving approval from the MSBA and then moving quickly into a search for a contractor. We reviewed and approved a number of design features, from color of brick to acoustic options. We met with various town boards, particularly Planning and Conservation, to get site approval, working with all to develop acceptable order of conditions. Because of significant efforts by our design team, Symmes Maini McKee Architects, we were able to go to bid on the first of May. The public bid laws we function under required pre-qualification of all potential bidders and their subcontractors, but we still received eight qualified bids and the contract was awarded to P.J. Stella with a bid of \$23 million, \$5 million less than we'd expected.

After many years of hard work, it was a joy to invite the community to the groundbreaking on June 17, highlighted by all the elementary school children attending with yellow "hard hats", and a presentation of a "check" for approximately \$18 million from State Treasurer Tim Cahill and MSBA Executive Director Katherine Craven. The "real" work started shortly thereafter as the fences went up, the trucks arrived and the development of the site began. We were grateful to Shelburne Farm and the Painters for taking ownership of the Old Blacksmith Shop and relocating it up on the farm where we are sure it will be well tended.

The committee's responsibilities during construction are quality and cost control. We now meet monthly with the design team (Project Manager and Architects) to hear updates, and vote on change orders and payment requisitions. Our project manager has a clerk of the works on site acting as our "eyes" on a daily basis, and through him we keep tabs on the contractor and his subcontractors. It took some time to work out the working relationship; the experience of our design team kept us confident that we were in good hands in these early days of negotiation. There were inevitable challenges and surprises through the fall: under all the vegetation, wetlands were closer to the building site than expected; as the old wing was taken down, some unexpected asbestos pipe needed to be carefully removed; and ledge was more prevalent in parts of the site than anticipated. But things moved forward through the end of the year, when the heaviest snowfall in memory began to fall. Though the steel arrived a bit late, the team started raising the structure in spite of weekly snowfalls.

As 2011 arrives, we are expecting the schedule to be a bit behind, but still see the transfer into the new wing over the winter vacation 2011 (grades 4 and 5), and grand opening in September 2012. We're pleased to report that the MSBA is already paying us approximately half of our expenses (50.85% of allowable costs) on a monthly basis, saving the town thousands of dollars in interest expense. Our final revised budget should be accepted this month by the MSBA, confirming the savings from our low bid. Fundraising continues and www.stowrecess.org continues to seek the community's help in finding sources of funds to offset the taxpayer burden.

The ESBC wants to acknowledge the patience, enthusiasm and support of staff and teachers, not to mention the students of Pompo and Center Schools, as we move through the construction project. The impact is felt throughout the school community, and yet the optimism of a new school carries us all through the bumps and challenges. We encourage residents to keep track of our progress through the town website, where all meetings, minutes and documents are updated regularly.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen S. Sturgis, Co-Chair
Amy Finkel Hastings, Co-Chair; Architect
Michael Wood, Superintendent
Stephen Quinn, Contractor; Planning Board
Craig Martin, Building Inspector
Gary Bernklow, Finance Committee

Lynn Colletti, School Committee
Charlie Kern, Selectman
David Korn, Associate Member
Lisa D'Alessio, Associate Member
Gregory Irvine, Ex-officio; Principal,
Pompo & Center Schools

MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE

We are delighted to report that the Master Plan was finished late in the Fall of 2010, accepted by the Planning Board in January, 2011 and presented to the Stow Selectmen in February 2011. It can be read on the town website or at the Randall Library.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia Rising, Chairman
Steve Dungan
Charles Kern
Karen Kelleher

Rebecca Mattison
Roy Miller
Kathleen Willis

POMPO USE STUDY COMMITTEE

The Pompo Use Study Committee, which reports to the Board of Selectmen, is composed of five members, each serving an indefinite term. The Committee is responsible for finding the best use possible for the Pompositticut School Building after the Nashoba Regional School District has vacated the Building.

In the past year we have been gathering information by utilizing on-line surveys, newspapers, public forums and interviewing those departments, groups and businesses that are interested in space at the Pompositticut building. It is our mission to be sure that everyone is heard and we deliver an accurate and well-planned idea for the building.

The Committee wants to thank the Board of Selectmen, the Town Administrator, and all the Town Departments that supported us through the year, and especially the citizens that took the time to share their ideas and thoughts with us.

We would also like to make a special thank you to Associate Patricia Bolton, who not only attended meetings but also telephoned in from Iraq while on tour with the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

Respectfully submitted,

James Sauta, Chairman

Mike Busch

Patricia Bolton, Associate

Paul Chaisson

Rob Aldape, Associate

Gus Stathis

Ann Deluty

Elizabeth Tobey, Secretary

STOW MUNICIPAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST

The Stow Municipal Affordable Housing Trust (SMAHT) was established by Town Meeting vote on May 16, 2005 when the Town voted to accept the provisions of MGL C44 s 55C, paragraphs (a) through (j) inclusive, establishing a municipal affordable housing trust fund. In May 2008, Town Meeting voted to adopt a Municipal Affordable Housing Trust, which provides for a Board of Trustees consisting of seven trustees to be appointed by the Board of Selectmen, one of whom must be a selectman. Trustees serve for a term of two years, with no limit on the number of terms.

The purpose of the Trust is to foster the development of affordable housing. Specifically, the powers and duties of the Trust allow it to buy and sell real estate, borrow money, develop and hold property, and all with the benefits of being under the Town's municipal structure – insurance coverage, investment management and accounting, and other such administrative functions. The Trust requires Board of Selectmen approval for any real estate transaction over \$200,000, and Town Meeting approval to borrow, mortgage or pledge for amounts greater than the current Trust assets. At Annual Town Meeting in 2010, the Town augmented the Trust's powers and abilities by granting it the ability to lend funds.

The Trust continues to be active and in 2010 focused on finalizing development of a Housing Production Plan (HPP). Building on work begun in 2009, the SMAHT Board edited the draft compiled by a consultant, paid for with Community Preservation funds, then circulated the revised draft plan for review and comment by Town boards and committees. SMAHT met with the Planning Board and Selectmen to review the draft plan, and incorporated their suggested changes, particularly related to zoning changes. The final draft was submitted to the state Department of Community Housing Development in December 2010.

SMAHT continued to partner with the Master Plan Committee in drafting the Housing element of the Stow Master Plan, to ensure that the housing goals and objectives of the Master Plan complement the Housing Production Plan. The Master Plan was completed in late 2010.

In addition to the Housing Production Plan, SMAHT worked to develop a loan program to help facilitate the production of affordable housing units eligible for inclusion on the Town's

Subsidized Housing Inventory. Loan documents were drafted and approved by town counsel. In late 2010 SMAHT began negotiations with the developers of the proposed Plantation II and Pilot Grove II affordable housing expansions to lend certain pre-development costs. Both developments are integral parts of the HPP. Those negotiations will continue into 2011.

As of December 31, 2010, there was \$206,121.51 in the Trust Fund.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Jacobs, Chair
Michael Kopczynski, Vice Chair
Quince Papanastassiou

Trish Settles
Cynthia Perkins
James Salvie, Selectman

OUR HERITAGE

ANCIENT DOCUMENTS COMMITTEE

A complete inventory of all artifacts in the historical museum in Randall Library and in the Town Vault was compiled by Liz Moseley, curator. She researched early Town Reports and 50 years of minutes of the Stow Historical Society to bring this information up to date. Based on this research, work continues on the reorganization of the museum and creating identification tags for the artifacts.

In conjunction with this project, Ralph Fuller created the cover pages entitled “Treasures of Stow’s Attic” for the 2009 Town Report. The artifacts are all part of Stow’s history, reflecting the people who lived here, the way of life in times past and the town’s growth through more than 300 years. Townspeople are urged to donate items of Stow history to the town’s collection by calling Liz Moseley at 978-897-4930.

For the second year all third grades from Center School visited the Town Hall in June for a History Day. A pictorial history of Stow was followed by a hands-on show of historical items from the Randall Library Museum and personal collections of committee members.

The Ancient Documents Committee and the Historical Society sponsored a guided walk of Upper Village for Springfest in May. Ralph Fuller was the guide for the tour, which ended with a Victorian tea at the former manse of the Union Church, home of one of the committee members.

Requests were received for genealogical information for Ephraim Robbins, Samuel Gates I, II and III; William Henry Parker and the Randall family.

Bob MacDonald volunteered to computerize a large collection of deeds from the vault, and the committee welcomed Dorothy Spaulding as a new member. She is interested in continuing organization of old cemetery records.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Sipler, Chair
Karen Gray
Lew Halprin
Bob Walrath
Linda Hathaway, Town Clerk

Bill Byron, Associate
Ralph Fuller, Associate
Liz Moseley, Associate
Dorothy Spaulding, Associate
Dorothy MacDonald, Genealogist

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Stow's Historical Commission is responsible for the preservation and protection of Stow's historical and archaeological resources. As part of our task of documentation and research this year we are overseeing a town-wide historical inventory.

Historical Inventory: The Historical Commission has entered into a contract with Public Archaeology Survey Team to do a town-wide historical inventory. Phase I is nearly complete.

Blacksmith Shop: The Peter Larsen Blacksmith Shop has been moved to Shelburne Farm on West Acton Road to be preserved by the Painter family.

Stone Building/Apple Barn: Despite our best efforts, it appears that this building will be demolished to expand the parking lot at the new Center School.

Stow Musket: We have been unable to find a suitable secure location to display this important piece of Stow's history. Perhaps it is time for a museum.

Lower Village Cemetery: Community Preservation Funds were used to rebuild another section of the stone wall along Great Road. We are very pleased with this project.

West School: This year the West School Museum summer event series went under new leadership, with the triumvirate of Ralph Fuller and Linda Stokes of the Historical Society, and Karen Gray as liaison from the Historical Commission, arranging the programs. The four events held were all quite successful, beginning with a very enjoyable evening with Jan Turnquist interpreting Louisa May Alcott to a nearly full house.

The second program was a particularly delightful one for children. Under the leadership of Linda Stokes, members of the Stow Minutemen and friends demonstrated crafts of the Colonial era. There were many opportunities for young visitors to actually participate in the activities. The spinners of Stow group also demonstrated spinning and weaving.

The highest attendance of the year was the Art and Photography show organized by Ralph Fuller in August. Awards were given by vote of those attending.

The September program was the "Dame School". This was a variation on the theme of past years of hosting a "back to school" Victorian era program. Once again this was a very participatory program for youngsters.

The Historical Commission is looking forward to a continuation of the programs in 2011 under the same leadership.

These programs are made possible largely through a generous a grant from the Stow Cultural Council, a local agency, and the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne Fletcher, Chairman

Daisy Dearborn

Leslie Kriebel

Dorothy Spaulding

Linda Stokes, resigned

Ralph Fuller, resigned

Susan McLaughlin, resigned

Karen Gray, Associate

Lewis Halprin, Associate and Treasurer

John Makey, Associate

Janet Stiles, Associate resigned

TOWN CLERK

There are 73 chapters and 451 statutes of the Massachusetts General Laws that direct the town clerk's duties. The town clerk interacts with all of Stow's town boards, as well as several state agencies on a regular basis. The town clerk is also the chief election officer for the town of Stow and a member of the Board of Registrars of Voters.

In addition to elections with voter registrations, nomination papers, petitions and campaign finance reporting, the town clerk's office is responsible for dog licensing, maintaining vital records (birth, marriage, death), business certificates, raffle permits, administering the oath of office to all elected and appointed officials, filings for the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals, fuel storage tank registrations, annual town census, collection of fines (parking, dog, and marijuana violations), preservation of town meeting setup, and scheduling the use of the town common sign and town hall.

Another responsibility includes implementing the Open Meeting Law and the Ethics Law requirements that went into effect this year. Every municipal employee and official must receive a summary of the Ethics Law annually and provide the clerk with documentation that he/she has received the summary. Every other year municipal employees and officials must take an online educational training and provide a certificate of completion to the town clerk. All of this paper work is retained for a minimum of six years.

2010 was a busy year for elections. It started in January with a special State Election to elect a U.S. senator to fill the vacancy created when Senator Edward M. Kennedy died. In May, there was our Annual Town Meeting and Town Election. The State Primary was held in September and in November we held the State Election, a Special Town Election and a Special Town Meeting. We tried something we have never done before by holding the Special Town Election and the State Election on the same day. It certainly accounted for the highest turnout for a Stow town election!

2010 was the year for the decennial U.S. census. The Federal Census office completed the majority of the work, but the clerk's office was involved in a small capacity. The final census numbers for Stow have not been released as of the date this report was turned in. We know that Stow will have two precincts in place for the 2012 elections based on the increase in our population since 2000.

2010 also was a year for milestones for the staff. Linda completed her 10th year as town clerk in July. Kay Desmond completed her 40th year as assistant town clerk, a job that she took over from Linda's grandmother, Mary Warren, in 1970. Newest member of the staff, Debbie Seith celebrated her first year as office assistant in August.

Volunteers are also an integral part of the office. Bill Byron and Ellie Beaudette assisted with the tedious task of opening all the census envelopes and sorting the forms by street number again this year. Also, we need to thank all of the election and town meeting workers for their assistance over the course of this busy election year. The workers' names are listed at the end of

each election and town meeting. Thank you to everyone who assisted me this year. Your help is greatly appreciated.

2010 VITAL RECORDS

BIRTHS	59
MARRIAGES	8
DEATHS	27

**Individual vital record listings are omitted as a security precaution to deter identity theft.*

TOWN CLERK 2010 FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

FEES COLLECTED	
Vital record copies, bylaws, maps, etc	\$ 2,452.42
Fines, bylaw violations, late fees	6,945.00
Business Certificate filings	650.00
Fuel storage tank registrations	20.00
Raffle permit	10.00
Dog Licenses	10,898.00
Kennel Licenses	625.00
<hr/> TOTAL FEES COLLECTED	<hr/> \$ 21,600.42

**SPECIAL STATE ELECTION
JANUARY 19, 2010**

Pursuant to the Selectmen's warrant of November 3, 2009, posted by the Constable on November 4, 2009, the Special State Election was held in Hale Middle School Gymnasium and was called to order at 7:00 a.m.

This Special State Election was held to fill the vacancy created by the death of long-time U.S. Senator Edward M. Kennedy.

After examining the ballot box and finding it empty and in good order, the counter was set to zero. The ballot box was then locked and the keys delivered to the Warden who declared the polls open.

During polling hours, one hundred ninety absentee ballots were opened, recorded and cast into the ballot box. There were eight spoiled ballots. There were nine provisional ballots. The polls were declared closed at 8:00 p.m. There were 3409 total ballots cast. Voter turnout was 73%. There were 4,658 registered voters.

On January 30th, the last day to receive overseas ballots, the Registrars of Voters opened, recorded and cast four ballots. The totals were added to the election night totals. Total ballots cast in this election were 3413.

The final results of the January 19, 2010 Special State Election as certified by the town clerk on January 30, 2010 are as follows:

Candidates	Election Night Total	Provisional Ballots & Overseas Tallied Jan.30, 2010	Final Total
Scott Brown	1790	1	1791
Martha Coakley	1595	3	1598
Joseph Kennedy	24	-	24
Blanks	0	-	0
Write-Ins:	0	-	0

ELECTION WORKERS

<u>Warden</u>	<u>Deputy Warden</u>	<u>Checkers & Ballot Counters</u>	
Philip T. Detsch	Edward R. Perry, Jr.	Josephine C. Crowell	Joanne C. Newman
		Mary E. Cutler	Katherine P. Ogle
<u>Clerk</u>	<u>Deputy Clerk</u>	Ann L. Deluty	Betty Sauta
Judith A. Scraggs	Pamela G. Gjestebj	Utahna G. Hallet	Kathleen Willis
		Betty Holly	
	<u>Ballot Box Officers</u>	Elizabeth D. MacGilvra	
	Janet Derby	Eila J. Makey	
	Tammy Van Buren		

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MAY 3, 2010

Pursuant to the Selectmen's warrant of April 6, 2010, posted by the Constable on April 21, 2010, the Annual Town Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in Hugh Mill Auditorium at Hale School by Deputy Moderator Gary Horowitz.

The meeting rose for an invocation delivered by Dr. Horowitz, who then led the gathering in the *Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag*. Town officials were introduced: Selectmen, Town Clerk, Assistant Town Clerk, Town Counsel, Town Administrator, Selectmen's and Administrator's Administrative Assistant, Finance Committee and others. Several non-voters who may be heard during the course of the meeting were approved.

Moderator Horowitz recognized several persons who passed away in 2009 after long tenure. He also recognized persons who will or have left service to the town or the school district.

On motion of Selectman Stephen Dungan, it was voted unanimously that the reading of the warrant and return of the constable thereon be waived but made a part of the record of this meeting, and that the Moderator be permitted to refer to each article by subject matter instead of reading each article in its entirety.

ARTICLE 1. Town Officers Not Elected by Ballot

On motion of Selectman Laura Spear, it was voted unanimously that the members of the Board of Selectmen be elected to serve as Field Drivers for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE 2. Reports of the Selectmen and Other Officers and Committees

On motion of Selectman Ellen Sturgis, it was voted unanimously that the reports of the Selectmen and other Town Officers, Boards, Committees and Commissions be accepted as printed in the Town Reports of 2008 and 2009.

ARTICLE 3. Reports of Special Committees

On motion of Selectman Stephen Dungan, it was voted unanimously that the reports of the special committees be accepted as printed in the Town Reports for 2008 and 2009.

At this point, Finance Committee member Christopher Sarno presented an overview of the Town's financial position, reporting that the Town is in relatively good shape. The Fiscal 2011 budget can be balanced without the necessity for a Proposition 2-1/2 override vote. He reviewed some of the capital requests to be funded by various means. While the Town is doing well in the short term, there will be changes over the long term with impact of the Center-Pompositticut School addition and renovation project.

ARTICLE 4. Wage and Salary Schedules

On motion of Selectman Kathleen Farrell, it was voted to amend Article 11 of the General Bylaws of the Town, Personnel Administration, by deleting from Section 20.h. the existing salary Schedules A, B, C, D and E, and inserting in place thereof new Schedules A. B, C. D. and E, as printed in the warrant.

**TOWN OF STOW
WAGE & SALARY SCHEDULES
*Effective July 1, 2010 (2%)***

**SCHEDULE A
ANNUAL RATE POSITIONS**

<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Step 1</u>	<u>Step 2</u>	<u>Step 3</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Police Chief	73,481	76,154	80,162	86,841	98,230
Police Lieutenant	66,488	71,505	75,269	79,032	81,542
Supt. of Streets	65,748	69,856	73,968	78,073	82,188
Fire Chief	65,213	67,823	71,737	78,262	84,778
Town Accountant	60,318	64,065	67,840	71,612	75,386
Treasurer-Collector	51,876	55,121	58,363	61,603	64,847
Building Inspector	50,784	53,956	57,130	60,305	63,481
Library Director	48,326	51,347	54,365	57,391	60,408
Town Clerk	43,428	46,007	48,715	51,417	54,126

ARTICLE 4. Wage and Salary Schedules (continued)

SCHEDULE B
HOURLY RATE POSITIONS

GROUP A

<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Step 1</u>	<u>Step 2</u>	<u>Step 3</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Parks & Commons Worker	11.05	11.97	12.99	13.95	14.90
Cemetery Worker	11.05	11.97	12.99	13.95	14.90
Custodian	11.05	11.97	12.99	13.95	14.90

GROUP B

<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Step 1</u>	<u>Step 2</u>	<u>Step 3</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Asst. Town Clerk	16.27	17.52	18.83	20.40	21.92
Capital Program Comm. Secretary	12.54	13.46	14.48	15.70	16.86

GROUP C

<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Step 1</u>	<u>Step 2</u>	<u>Step 3</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Board of Appeals Secretary	17.12	18.65	20.11	21.66	23.13
Town Secretary	13.46	14.69	15.84	17.06	18.24
Highway/Tree/ Grounds Worker	13.46	14.69	15.84	17.06	18.24

GROUP D

<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Step 1</u>	<u>Step 2</u>	<u>Step 3</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Highway/Tree Grounds Driver-Laborer	16.69	17.75	18.79	19.81	20.83

GROUP E

<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Step 1</u>	<u>Step 2</u>	<u>Step 3</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Highway Dept. Equipment Operator	18.23	19.36	20.49	21.64	22.75
Tree Worker (Moth)	18.23	19.36	20.49	21.64	22.75
Maintenance Person	18.23	19.36	20.49	21.64	22.75

ARTICLE 4. Wage and Salary Schedules (continued)
GROUP F

<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Step 1</u>	<u>Step 2</u>	<u>Step 3</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Highway Dept. Mechanic	19.32	20.44	21.75	22.96	24.13
Crew Chief	20.09	21.27	22.62	23.86	25.11

GROUP G

<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Step 1</u>	<u>Step 2</u>	<u>Step 3</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Asst. Supt. of Streets	23.60	25.10	26.56	28.03	29.50
Highway Dept. Foreman	21.45	22.80	24.12	25.48	26.78

SCHEDULE C
SINGLE RATE POSITIONS PAID ANNUALLY

<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Registrar of Voters	130.00
Assistant Registrar of Voters	259.00
Animal Control Officer	16,768.00
Animal Inspector	3,480.00
Director of Summerthing	2,604.00
Beach Director	5,612.00
Cemetery Superintendent	40,741.00
Veterans' Agent	1,800.00
Council on Aging Secretary	400.00

SCHEDULE D
SINGLE RATE POSITIONS PAID HOURLY

<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>
Election Warden	9.92
Election Clerk	9.92
Election Teller	8.78
Election Clerical Assistance	8.78
Lifeguard	10.90
Lifeguard (W.S.I.)	12.88
Beach Checker	8.78
Summerthing Assistant	8.78
Street Lister	9.48
Street Listing Clerk	8.78
Street Numberer	8.78

SCHEDULE D	
<u>SINGLE RATE POSITIONS PAID HOURLY (continued)</u>	
Per Diem Firefighter (call)	13.77
Apprentice Firefighter (call)	13.35
Firefighter (call)	15.26
Emergency Medical Technician (call)	15.26
Firefighter/EMT (call)	15.95
EMT -w/Defib & Epi Pen (call)	16.66
Firefighter/EMT - w/Defib & Epi Pen (call)	17.35
Officers - Fire or Medical (call)	18.75
Police Officer - part-time	21.33
Police Matron	18.82
Auxiliary Police Officer	13.92
Dispatcher - part-time	17.73

SCHEDULE E
FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL SINGLE RATES

<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Deputy Fire Chief (call)	941.00
Fire Engineer	816.00
Fire Captain (call)	626.00
Fire Lieutenant (call)	502.00
Fire Medical Officer	376.00
EMS Quartermaster	251.00
EMS Schedule Coordinator	189.00
EMS Assistant Coordinator	314.00
EMS Records Coordinator	376.00

ARTICLE 5. General Budget for Fiscal Year 2011

Selectman Thomas Ruggiero moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,157,165.00, as recommended by the Town Administrator and Selectmen for Items 1 through 75 inclusive, as printed in the warrant under the column entitled "*FY2011 Budget Town Admin/Selectmen Recommended*", each item to be considered a separate appropriation for the purposes designated and the same to be expended only for such purposes.

Moderator Horowitz read off each group of line items. Several questions were asked and answered.

When put to a vote, the general budget for FY2011 at \$20,157,165.00, as printed in the warrant, was declared unanimously approved.

General Government

1 Moderator Salary	\$ 38.00
2 Moderator Expenses	45.00

Article 5- General Budget - General Government - Continued

3	Selectmen Administrative Asst. Salary	47,553.00
4	Selectmen Expenses	9,470.00
5	Town Administrator Salary	109,445.00
6	Town Administrator Expenses	500.00
7	Town Building Clerical Wages	12,761.00
8	Finance Committee Wages	3,813.00
9	Finance Committee Expenses	550.00
10	Accountant Salary	46,748.00
11	Accountant Clerk Salary	0.00
12	Accountant Expenses	1,525.00
13	Principal Assessor Salary	63,220.00
14	Assessors' Clerical Wages	61,344.00
15	Assessors' Expenses	7,200.00
16	Treasurer-Collector Salary	61,603.00
17	Treasurer-Collector Clerical Wages	45,675.00
18	Treasurer-Collector Expenses	39,400.00
19	Information Technology Clerical Wages	22,698.00
20	Information Technology Expenses	45,717.00
21	Town Clerk Salary	54,126.00
22	Town Clerk Other Wages	28,532.00
23	Town Clerk Expenses	14,180.00
24	Conservation Commission Clerical Wages	69,866.00
25	Conservation Commission Expenses	4,280.00
26	Planning Board Clerical Wages	107,706.00
27	Planning Board Expenses	4,510.00
28	Board of Appeals Clerical Wages	6,976.00
29	Board of Appeals Expenses	2,890.00
30	Municipal Building & Property Wages	27,510.00
31	Municipal Building & Property Expenses	57,230.00
32	Town Reports Expenses	<u>9,600.00</u>
	General Government Total	\$966,711.00

Public Safety

33	Police Chief Salary	\$ 98,230.00
34	Police & Dispatch Wages	1,081,551.00
35	Police & Dispatch Expenses	95,000.00
36	Fire Chief Salary	78,262.00
37	Fire & EMS Wages	460,076.00
38	Fire & EMS Expenses	86,101.00
39	Building Inspector Salary	63,481.00
40	Building Dept. Clerical Wages	32,863.00
41	Building Dept. Expenses	<u>3,900.00</u>
	Public Safety Total	\$1,999,464.00

Article 5- General Budget - Continued

Public Works and Facilities

42 Supt. of Streets Salary	\$ 82,188.00
43 Highways & Grounds Wages	448,876.00
44 Highways & Grounds Expenses	112,600.00
45 Snow & Ice Removal Expense	150,000.00
46 Municipal Lighting	13,500.00
47 Gasoline & Diesel Fuel Expense	85,000.00
48 Cemetery Salary & Wages	51,204.00
49 Cemetery Expenses	<u>6,385.00</u>
Public Works and Facilities Total	\$ 949,753.00

Human Services

50 Sanitary Agent Wages	\$ 17,995.00
51 Health Department Wages	81,092.00
52 Health Department Expenses	7,235.00
53 Council on Aging Executive Director Salary	53,725.00
54 Council on Aging Wages	84,566.00
55 Council on Aging Expenses	12,270.00
56 Veterans' Agent Salary	1,800.00
57 Veterans' Agent Expenses	<u>200.00</u>
Human Services Total	\$ 258,883.00

Culture and Recreation

58 Library Director Salary	\$ 60,408.00
59 Library Wages	83,680.00
60 Library Expenses	56,513.00
61 Recreation Wages	47,803.00
62 Recreation Expenses	23,550.00
63 Lake Boon Commission Wages	2,745.00
64 Lake Boon Commission Expenses	700.00
65 Historical Commission Expenses	525.00
66 Memorial Day Expenses	950.00
67 Lighting of Clock Expenses	<u>100.00</u>
Culture and Recreation Total	\$ 276,974.00

Town-Wide Expenses

68 Group Insurance	\$ 644,550.00
69 Insurance & Bonds	110,000.00
70 Telephone	<u>29,070.00</u>
Town-Wide Expenses Total	\$ 783,620.00

Article 5- General Budget - Continued

Education

71 Nashoba Regional School District Assessment	\$13,014,640.00
72 Minuteman Voc-Tech Assessment	<u>609,427.00</u>

Education Total \$13,624,067.00

Debt Service

73 Principal, Long-Term Debt	\$ 785,000.00
74 Interest, Long-Term Debt – Bonds	510,693.00
75 Interest, Temporary Loans – Revenue	<u>2,000.00</u>

Debt Service Total \$ 1,297,693.00

TOTAL GENERAL BUDGET.....\$20,157,165.00

On motion of Selectman Laura Spear, it was voted unanimously to take Article 39 out of order and to act on it prior to the Consent Calendar.

ARTICLE 39. Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical High School Renovation

On motion of Selectman Spear, it was voted unanimously that the Town hereby approve the sum of \$725,000 of borrowing authorized by the Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical School District, for the purpose of paying costs of a feasibility study to consider options for making improvements to the District's high school building located at 759 Marrett Road, Lexington, Massachusetts, which options shall include, but not be limited to renovating, reconstructing, expanding, remodeling and adding to the District's high school, or any combination of the foregoing; said sum to be expended at the direction of the School Building Committee. The Massachusetts School Building Authority's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any costs of the Project that the District incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the District, and that the total amount of the borrowing authorized by this vote shall be reduced by any grant amount set forth in the Feasibility Study Agreement that may be executed between the District and the MSBA.

The Finance Committee was in favor.

CONSENT CALENDAR

On motion of Selectman Ellen Sturgis, it was voted to take action on Articles 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 36 and 37, as said motions are printed in the Consent Calendar, a copy of which has been provided to the voters at this meeting, without debate on any such articles, and provided that upon the request of any voter at this meeting made before the vote is taken on this motion, an article shall be dropped from the Consent Calendar and shall be acted upon in the ordinary course and order of business at this town meeting, except that the sum in Article 32 is changed from \$8,000 to \$10,000.

Articles 9, 15, 16 and 35 were dropped from the Consent Calendar at the request of voters. The Finance Committee recommended approval of the articles within the Consent Calendar.

The articles of the Consent Calendar that were not held were voted unanimously as printed in the Consent Calendar, with the exception that the sum in Article 32 was voted at \$10,000.

ARTICLE 6. Reserve Fund

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$70,000 for a Reserve Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2010.

ARTICLE 7. Audit of Financial Records

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,600 for a town financial audit.

ARTICLE 8. Revolving Fund for Inspection Fees

Voted to authorize, upon the recommendation of the Selectmen, a revolving fund pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E-1/2 for FY2011, to which shall be credited all permitting fees received for wire, gas, plumbing and fire alarm permits and for weights and measures sealing, to a limit of \$40,000 for FY2011, to be expended by the Selectmen without further appropriation, for the purpose of payment of fees to the inspectors administering such permits and reimbursements of expenses incurred on behalf of the Town.

ARTICLE 9. Revolving Fund for Advanced Life Support Services

Removed from Consent Calendar and acted upon separately.

ARTICLE 10. Transfer to Conservation Fund

Voted to appropriate and transfer from the Conservation Land Maintenance Account to the Conservation Fund the sum of \$1,737.50 to be expended by the Conservation Commission.

ARTICLE 11. Transfer from Wetlands Protection Fund

Voted to appropriate and transfer from the Wetlands Protection Fund the sum of \$2,465.50 as additional appropriation to the Conservation Commission, to be expended by the Conservation Commission in performing its duties under the Wetlands Protection Act.

ARTICLE 12. Transfer from Sale of Lots Account

Voted to appropriate and transfer from Sale of Lots Account the sum of \$2,306 to be expended by the Cemetery Committee for the purchase of markers in laying out grave lots in Extension II of Brookside Cemetery.

ARTICLE 13. Update of Property Valuations

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$18,000 to be added to the balance previously appropriated for the purpose of updating property valuations in the Town to full and fair cash value, to be expended by the Assessors.

ARTICLE 14. Town Records Binding and Repair

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$200 to be added to any balance previously appropriated for the purpose of binding and repairing Town records in accordance with Mass. General Laws Chapter 66, Section 9, to be expended by the Town Clerk.

ARTICLE 15. Town Common Sign

Removed from Consent Calendar and acted upon separately.

ARTICLE 16. Highway Department

Removed from Consent Calendar and acted upon separately.

ARTICLE 17. Highway Road Construction

Voted to appropriate and borrow the sum of \$204,963 from FY2010 apportionment for construction and/or improvements to Town roads, as requested by the Board of Selectmen, to be reimbursed by the Commonwealth.

ARTICLE 18. Federal Safe Drinking Water Act

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,000 to be added to any balance previously appropriated for the purpose of satisfying the compliance requirements of the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended, in accordance with State regulations, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Health.

ARTICLE 19. Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500 to be added to any balance remaining from the previous appropriation, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Health for the purpose of providing for household hazardous waste collection.

ARTICLE 20. Public Health Nurse

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,400 to be added to any balance remaining from the previous appropriation, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Health for the purpose of providing home care services, public health nursing services and communicable disease follow-up to Stow residents.

ARTICLE 21. Solid Waste Disposal Container

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 to be added to any balance remaining from the previous appropriation, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Health for the purpose of renting a container and disposing of solid waste which has been dumped on town land and roadsides.

ARTICLE 22. Construction and Maintenance of Water Holes for Firefighting

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500 to be expended under the direction of the Fire Chief for the purpose of constructing and maintaining water holes and hydrants to support firefighting operations.

ARTICLE 23. Stow Cultural Council

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,500 to be added to any balance remaining from previous appropriations, to produce cultural activities and programming in Stow, including \$2,000 of these funds to be used to support SpringFest activities.

ARTICLE 24. Veterans' Benefits

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,200 to be added to any balance remaining and previously appropriated for this purpose, for the purpose of providing benefits to qualified veterans as determined by Stow's Veterans Services Officer.

ARTICLE 25. Planning Board Engineering/Consulting and Master Plan Expenses

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,500 to be added to any balance remaining and previously appropriated for this purpose, to be expended by the Planning Board for Planning Board engineering/consulting services and master plan expenses.

ARTICLE 26. Employee Educational Incentive Program

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$85,000 to be expended under the direction of the Town Administrator for funding the Town's employee educational incentive program.

ARTICLE 27. Legal Services

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be added to any balance remaining from any previous appropriation for the purpose of funding the Town's general legal account.

ARTICLE 28. Police Officer and Firefighter Medical Payments

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$400 to be added to any balance remaining and previously appropriated in anticipation of possible claims presented to the Town under the provisions of Mass. General Laws Chapter 41, Section 100, for the payment of medical and other allowable expenses incurred by police officers or firefighters injured in the performance of and within the scope of duty.

ARTICLE 29. Weights and Measures Testing

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,600 to be added to any balance remaining from a previous appropriation for the purpose of funding the Town's weights and measures testing.

ARTICLE 30. SwiftReach Notification System

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 to be expended under the direction of the Chief of Police for the purpose of paying for a town-wide telephonic emergency notification system known as SwiftReach Networks.

ARTICLE 31. Police Department Security Upgrade

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,000 to be expended under the direction of the Chief of Police for the purpose of upgrading the holding cell security system from video only to audio-video.

ARTICLE 32. Lake Boon Water Quality Remediation

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to be expended under the direction of the Lake Boon Commission for the purpose of weed remediation to improve the water quality of Lake Boon.

ARTICLE 33. Transfer from Overlay Surplus Account

Voted to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$38,274.44 from the Town's FY2009 Overlay Surplus Account to the FY2010 Snow and Ice Account.

ARTICLE 34. Transfer to the Stabilization Fund

Voted to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$50,000 to be added to the Stabilization Fund.

ARTICLE 35. Community Preservation Expenses

Removed from Consent Calendar and acted upon separately.

ARTICLE 36. Community Preservation Reserves

Voted to reserve for later appropriation monies from the Community Preservation Fund Balance collected from both the Community Preservation Act Surcharge and the State Trust Fund Distribution and collected from Fiscal Year 2011 Community Preservation Fund Annual Revenues, in accordance with the provision of Mass. General Laws Chapter 44B, the Community Preservation Act, for the undertaking of Community Preservation projects.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| 1. Preservation of Historic Resources | \$60,000 |
| 2. Preservation of Open Spaces | \$60,000 |
| 3. Affordable Housing | \$60,000 |

Report of Community Preservation Committee re Articles 35, 36 and 37:

The Community Preservation Committee voted on April 14, 2010 to endorse Articles 35, 36 and 37, as printed in the warrant.

ARTICLE 37. Community Preservation Adjustment for FY2010 Reserves

Voted to reserve for later appropriation, adding to funds reserved at the May 4, 2009 Stow Annual Town Meeting, monies from the Community Preservation Fund Balance collected from both the Community Preservation Act Surcharge and the State Trust Fund Distribution and collected from Fiscal Year 2010 Community Preservation Fund Annual Revenues, in accordance with the provision of Mass. General Laws Chapter 44B, the Community Preservation Act, for the undertaking of Community Preservation projects.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------|
| 1. Preservation of Historic Resources | \$2,000 |
| 2. Preservation of Open Spaces | \$2,000 |
| 3. Affordable Housing | \$2,000 |

=====**End of Consent Calendar**=====

ARTICLE 9. Revolving Fund for Advanced Life Support Services

On motion of Selectman Thomas Ruggiero, it was voted unanimously to authorize, upon the recommendation of the Selectmen, the establishment of a revolving fund pursuant to Mass. General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E-1/2 for FY2011, to which shall be credited all fees received for advanced life support services provided by the Town of Stow, to a limit of \$40,000 for FY2011, to be expended by the Fire Department without further appropriation for the purpose of payment of all costs associated with providing advanced life support ambulance services.

ARTICLE 15. Town Common Sign

On motion of Selectman Laura Spear, it was voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 to repair and repaint the sign on the Town Common.

ARTICLE 16. Highway Department

On motion of Selectman Ellen Sturgis, it was voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sums of money for Highway Department purpose as set forth in the schedule below:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. For the Road Machinery Account | \$41,403.00 |
| 2. For repairs on private ways | \$15,000.00 |

ARTICLE 35. Community Preservation Expenses

On motion of Selectman Laura Spear, it was voted unanimously to appropriate from Fiscal Year 2011 Community Preservation Fund Annual Revenues the sum of \$30,000, or any lesser sum, to be expended for wages and expenses associated with the creation, implementation and maintenance of Community Preservation programs, in accordance with the provision of Mass. General Laws Chapter 44B, the Community Preservation Act, including but not limited to office supplies, clerical assistance, property surveys, appraisals, attorney's fees and other professional services, recording fees, printing and all other necessary and proper expenses for the Fiscal Year 2011, in accordance with a budget to be prepared for the Town Administrator.

ARTICLE 38. Capital Requests

On motion of Selectman Kathleen Farrell, it was voted unanimously to discuss the items of this article individually and vote upon each separately as to the amount to be appropriated for each item, as set forth in separate motions proposed.

ARTICLE 38-1. Town Building External Repairs and Painting

On motion of Selectman Farrell, it was voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of \$65,000 for external repairs and painting of the Town Building.

The Finance Committee and Capital Planning Committee were in favor.

ARTICLE 38-2. Fire-Rescue Department Command Vehicle

On motion of Selectman Farrell, it was voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of \$37,500 to replace the Fire-Rescue Department command vehicle.

The Finance Committee and Capital Planning Committee were in favor.

ARTICLE 38-3. Fire-Rescue Department Radio System Upgrade

On motion of Selectman Farrell, it was voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of \$39,000 for a Fire-Rescue Department radio system upgrade.

The Finance Committee and Capital Planning Committee were in favor.

ARTICLE 38-4. Highway Department Truck and Spreader

On motion of Selectman Farrell, it was voted unanimously to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum or \$80,000 for a six-wheel truck and spreader for the Highway Department.

The Finance Committee and Capital Planning Committee were in favor.

ARTICLE 38-5. Highway Barn Roof

On motion of Selectman Farrell, it was voted unanimously to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$54,000 to replace the roof on the Highway Barn.

The Finance Committee and Capital Planning Committee were in favor.

ARTICLE 38-6. Police Department Vehicle

On motion of Selectman Farrell, it was voted unanimously to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$33,000 for a police cruiser replacement.

The Finance Committee and Capital Planning Committee were in favor.

ARTICLE 38-7. Randall Library Roof Repair

On motion of Selectman Farrell, it was voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 for slate roof repairs at the Randall Library.

The Finance Committee and Capital Planning Committee were in favor.

ARTICLE 38-8. Randall Library Mold and Mildew Repair

On motion of Selectman Farrell, it was voted unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 for mold and mildew repairs at the Randall Library.

The Finance Committee and Capital Planning Committee were in favor.

ARTICLE 38-9. Hale School Baseball Field Upgrade

On motion of Selectman Farrell, it was voted unanimously to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$32,500 for an upgrade to the Hale School baseball field consisting of a new backstop, enlarged infield and addition of pitcher's mound and homerun fence.

The Finance Committee and Capital Planning Committee were in favor.

ARTICLE 39. Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical High School Renovation

Acted upon after action on the General Budget (Article 5) and prior to consideration of the Consent Calendar articles.

ARTICLE 40. Town Land Conveyance to First Parish Church

On motion of Selectman Thomas Ruggiero, it was voted unanimously to authorize the Board of Selectmen, following any necessary actions required by law, to convey in fee, or less than fee, at a price to be determined by the Board of Selectmen, if any, to the First Parish Church of Stow & Acton a parcel of land containing approximately (three thousand) 3,000 +/- square feet and at the junction of Great Road and Common Road, identified as within Parcel U-10-69 as shown on the Stow Assessors' Map; and to further authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into certain agreements to convey said parcel in fee or less than fee on terms deemed by the Board of Selectmen to be in the best interests of the Town; and to further authorize the Board of Selectmen to retain by easement or otherwise a portion of said 3,000 square feet for sidewalk purposes, said sidewalk layout to be determined by the Board of Selectmen, and to impose as a condition of said conveyance a restriction for the longest period allowed by law, protecting from disturbance the large triangular stone that stands approximately 3 feet tall and 2 to 3 feet in width, located at or near the northerly corner of the parcel.

The Finance Committee was in favor.

ARTICLE 41. Rescission of Prior Votes re Red Acre Road Land Purchase

On motion of Selectman Laura Spear, it was voted unanimously to rescind the votes taken under Articles 35 and 36 of the Stow Annual Town Meeting of May 19, 2003 to use Community Preservation Act funds to purchase a certain parcel on Red Acre Road for Open Space and Affordable Housing; specifically, to see if the Town will rescind actions taken under Article 35 to appropriate and transfer \$300,000 from the town Community Preservation Fund (CPF) to purchase open space and return \$60,000 to the Stow CPF Open Space Reserves and return \$240,000 to the Stow CPF unreserved fund; and further to rescind actions taken under Article 36 to appropriate and transfer \$100,000 from the town CPF for affordable housing and return that amount back to the Stow CPF unreserved funds.

The Finance Committee was in favor.

Robert Wilber, chair of the Community Preservation Committee, presented an overview of the Community Preservation funds that are designated for affordable housing, historic preservation and open space and recreation. He reviewed the projects that have been supported by CPC funds, one of which is the Stow Community Park off Old Bolton Road that was recently opened.

Report of Community Preservation Committee re Articles 41, 42, 43, 44 and 45:

The Community Preservation Committee voted on April 14, 2010 to endorse Articles 41, 42, 43, 44 and 45, as printed in the warrant.

ARTICLE 42. Stone Wall Restoration at Lower Village Cemetery

On motion of Selectman Ellen Sturgis, it was voted unanimously to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$20,000, or any lesser sum, from the Community Preservation Fund Reserve for Historic Preservation purposes, to be expended under the direction of the Cemetery Committee, in consultation with the Community Preservation Committee, for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of stone walls at the Lower Village Cemetery.

The Finance Committee and Capital Planning Committee were in favor.

ARTICLE 43. Headstone Restoration at Town Cemeteries

On motion of Selectman Stephen Dungan, it was voted unanimously to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$48,000, or any lesser sum, from the Community Preservation Fund Reserve for Historic Preservation purposes, in accordance with the provisions of Mass. General Laws Chapter 44B, the Community Preservation Act, to be expended under the direction of the Cemetery Committee, in consultation with the Community Preservation Committee, for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of headstones and monuments at town cemeteries.

The Finance Committee and Capital Planning Committee were in favor.

ARTICLE 44. Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey

On motion of Selectman Kathleen Farrell, it was voted unanimously to **take no action** on this article for a town-wide archaeological survey to identify patterns of prehistoric and historic occupants and activity, determine the locations of probable archaeological resources, create archaeological sensitivity maps and establish recommendations for protection of sensitive areas.

ARTICLE 45. Open Space Conservation Restriction

Selectman Thomas Ruggiero moved to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$80,000, or any lesser sum, from the Community Preservation Fund Reserve for Open Space preservation purposes, to be expended under the direction of the Community Preservation Committee for expenses associated with purchasing a Conservation Restriction on property consisting of two parcels on 30.3 acres, more or less, located **near Maple Street and Edgehill Road** in Stow, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, shown on Assessors' Map R-2, Parcels 1B and 19A, such restriction to be recorded at the Middlesex County Registry of Deeds; said Conservation Restriction to limit the use of the land to open space and conservation purposes in perpetuity or for the longest period of time allowed by law; and to authorize the Community Preservation Committee to pursue and the Board of Selectmen and/or Conservation Commission to accept a Conservation Restriction on said property in accordance with statutory requirements.

Discussion ensued. John Beusch of the Stow Conservation Trust spoke to the article and reviewed the history of land purchases by the Trust within the town. The parcel in question had been landlocked, but through the generosity of two property owners an easement was granted for access.

The Conservation Commission was in favor of the article. The Finance Committee and Capital Planning Committee were opposed.

A hand vote was declared inconclusive, whereupon Moderator Horowitz called for a teller counted vote. There were 107 votes, with a two-thirds requirement of 71 for passage. The vote was 82 in favor and 25 opposed. **The motion carried.**

ARTICLE 46. South Acton Road Land Purchase

On motion of Selectman Laura Spear, it was voted unanimously to **take no action** on this article for purchase of 4.98 acres on South Acton Road identified as Parcel R-21-39. Not enough information had been forthcoming.

ARTICLE 47. Senior Tax Relief

On motion of Selectman Ellen Sturgis, it was voted unanimously to accept the provisions of Section 4 of Chapter 73 of the Acts of 1986, as amended by Chapter 126 of the Acts of 1988, and further to act under the aforesaid statutes to increase by 100 percent the amount of property tax exemption granted to persons who qualify for said exemptions under clauses 17, 17C, 17D, 22, 22A, 22B, 22C, 22D, 22D, 37, 37A, 41, 41B and 41C of Section 5 of Chapter 59 of the Mass. General Laws and Acts and amendments thereof or additions thereto, for FY2011.

The Finance Committee was in favor.

ARTICLE 48. General Bylaw Amendment - Affordable Housing Trust

On motion of Selectman Stephen Dungan, it was voted unanimously to amend Article 18, Section 3, Article Fifth, subsection (11) of the Town of Stow General Bylaws by adding the words, "as well as to make loans and grants of money for the purpose of constructing or rehabilitating dwelling units for low or moderate income individuals or families subject to the terms and conditions imposed by the Trustees of the Trust".

NOTE: SCRIVENER'S ERROR

The General Bylaw article and section numbers were transposed and mislabeled in the warrant and in the motion. The article and section of the General Bylaws amended is "Article 3, Section 18, paragraph E (12)".

- (12) to make distributions or divisions of principal in kind, as well as to make loans and grants of money for the purpose of constructing or rehabilitating dwelling units for low or moderate income individuals or families subject to the terms and conditions imposed by the Trustees of the Trust.

ARTICLE 49. Zoning Bylaw Amendment - Flood Plain/Wetland Overlay District

On motion of Selectman Laura Spear, it was voted unanimously to amend the Zoning Bylaw by amending Sections 2.3.8 and 5.1 to read in their entirety as printed in the warrant in subsections (A), (B), (C), (D) and (E) of this article, provided that the first paragraph of subsection (A) shall read:

"Boundary lines outlining the flood plain shall include all lands designated in the following maps and reports. In the event there is a discrepancy in the flood plain boundary designation, the boundary that includes a larger area of flood plain shall apply, and further provided that the amended provisions of Section 2.3.8 and 5.1.2 through 5.1.5 shall become effective on June 4, 2010; and further that non-substantive changes to the numbering of this Bylaw be permitted in order that it be in compliance with the numbering format of the Zoning Bylaw."

A. Amend Section 2.3.8 to read in its entirety as follows:

- 2.3.8 Boundary lines outlining the flood plain shall include all lands designated in the following maps and reports. In the event there is a discrepancy in the flood plain boundary designation, the boundary that includes a larger area of flood plain shall apply, and further provided that the amended provisions of Section 2.3.8 and 5.1.2 through 5.1.5 shall become effective on June 4, 2010; and further that non-substantive changes to the numbering of this Bylaw be permitted in order that it be in compliance with the numbering format of the Zoning Bylaw.

Boundary lines outlining the flood plain of the Assabet River shall be the limits of the Standard Project Flood Modified delineated on the plan entitled "Flood Plains Profiles", sheets 2, 3 and 4 of the Assabet River Technical Report, Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers, dated June 1966 and on file with the Town Clerk.

Boundary lines outlining the flood plain of Heath Hen Meadow Brook shall be the limits of the 100-year design storm flood plan delineated on the plan entitled "Flood Plain - Plan and Profile Heath Hen Meadow Brook, Stow, Massachusetts", by BSC Engineering, Inc., dated February 21, 1975, revised May 2, 1975, and on file with the Town Clerk.

All special flood hazard areas within the Town of Stow designated as Zone A, AE, AH, AO and A99 on the Middlesex County Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the administration of the National Flood Insurance Program. The map panels of the Middlesex County FIRM that are wholly or partially within the Town of Stow are panel numbers 25017C0333E, 25017C0334E, 25017C0341E, 25017C0342E, 25017C0343E, 25017C344E, 25017C0353E, 25017C0354E, 25017C0361E, and 25017C0363E dated June 4, 2010. The exact boundaries of the District shall be defined by the 100-year base flood elevations shown on the FIRM and further defined by the Middlesex County Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report dated June 4, 2010. The FIRM and FIS report are incorporated herein by reference and are on file with the Town Clerk and Planning Board.

B. Amend Section 5 by adding a new subsection 5.1.2 to read in its entirety as follows:

5.1.2 Floodway Data - In Zones A and AE, along watercourses that have not had a regulatory floodway designated, the best available Federal, State, local, or other floodway data shall be used to prohibit encroachments in floodways which would result in any increase in flood levels within the community during the occurrence of the base flood discharge.

5.1.2.1 Base Flood Elevation Data - Base flood elevation data is required for subdivision proposals or other developments greater than 5 acres, within unnumbered A zones.

C. Amend Section 5 by adding a new subsection 5.1.3 to read in its entirety as follows:

5.1.3 Notification of Watercourse Alteration

In a riverine situation, the Town of Stow shall notify the following of any alteration or relocation of a watercourse:

- Adjacent Communities
- NFIP State Coordinator
Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
251 Causeway Street, Suite 600-700
Boston, MA 02114-2104
- NFIP Program Specialist
Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region 1
99 High Street, 6th Floor
Boston, MA 02110

D. Amend Section 5 by adding a new subsection 5.1.4 to read in its entirety as follows:

5.1.4 Other Regulations

In Zones AE, along watercourses that have a regulatory floodway within the Town of Stow designated on the Middlesex County FIRMs encroachments are prohibited in the regulatory floodway, which would result in any increase in flood levels within the community during the occurrence of the base flood discharge.

E. Amend Section 5 by adding a new subsection 5.1.5 to read in its entirety as follows:

5.1.5 Reference To Existing Regulations

- The Floodplain District is established as an overlay district to all other districts. All development in the district, including structural and non-structural activities, whether permitted by right or by special permit must be in compliance with Chapter 131, Section 40 of the Massachusetts General Laws and with the following:
- Section of the Massachusetts State Building Code which addresses floodplain and coastal high hazard areas (currently 780 CMR 120.G, "Flood Resistant Construction and Construction in Coastal Dunes");
- Wetlands Protection Regulations, Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) (currently 310 CMR 10.00);
- Inland Wetlands Restriction, DEP (currently 310 CMR 13.00);
- Minimum Requirements for the Subsurface Disposal of Sanitary Sewage, DEP (currently 310 CMR 15, Title 5);

Any variances from the provisions and requirements of the above referenced state regulations may only be granted in accordance with the required variance procedures of these state regulations.

Report of the Planning Board

This article is meant to update the Floodplain/Wetlands Overlay District for purposes of Stow's continued participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.

Subsection A adds necessary language in order to reflect Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) 2010 Countrywide mapping format. Reference to the 1979 Federal Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) is replaced by the 2010 FIRM.

Subsections B, C and D contain additions that are necessary to remain compliant with the National Flood Insurance Program. This information is contained in the Code of Federal Regulations 44CFR 60.3.

Subsection E contains language recommended by FEMA. The Flood Plain/Wetlands Overlay District Bylaw is part of a federal requirement for communities that choose to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program. However, the state already administers regulations that take care of many floodplain management concerns. Referencing existing regulations is important to ensure that projects have been reviewed under the appropriate state regulations and that variances to the conditions of the bylaw do not erroneously allow variances to state requirements.

During the public hearing residents voiced concern about discrepancies between the FIRM and existing maps and studies referred to in the bylaw, and voiced their opinion that the new 2010 FIRM is

more current and therefore accurate. The Planning Board agreed to consider a future bylaw amendment after the Board has an opportunity to evaluate all of the studies to determine whether or not the bylaw should rely solely upon the 2010 FIRM.

At its meeting of April 20, 2010 the Planning Board voted to recommend that Town Meeting ADOPT Article 49 with the following amendment:

The first paragraph of Section 2.3.8 shall read as follows:

Boundary lines outlining the flood plain shall include all lands designated in the following maps and reports. In the event there is a discrepancy in the flood plain boundary designation, the boundary that includes a larger area of flood plain shall apply.

ARTICLE 50. Transfer to the Stabilization Fund

On motion of Selectman Thomas Ruggiero, it was voted unanimously to **take no action** on Article 50. This is a duplicate of Article 34 in the Consent Calendar.

ARTICLE 51. Balance Fiscal Year 2011 Budget

On motion of Selectman Kathleen Farrell, it was voted unanimously to **take no action** on this article.

ARTICLE 52. Town Election

On motion of Selectman Ellen Sturgis, it was voted unanimously that the meeting be adjourned until the Annual Election on Tuesday, May 11, 2010, commencing at 7:00 a.m. at the Hale Middle School Gymnasium in said Town of Stow and then and there to act on Article 52 for such election of officers as listed in the warrant; and thereafter, at the close of the polls, to dissolve this meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:42 p.m. to reconvene on May 11, 2010 at 7:00 a.m. for the Annual Election.

Checkers at the Door: Josephine Crowell, Janet Derby, Elizabeth MacGilvra, Betty Sauta, Judith Scraggs

Tellers: Robert Aldape, Michael Busch, Jean Lynch, Margaret Lynch, Jayne Merrick, Joanne Newman, Edward Perry, Jr., Marcia Rising, Debra Seith, Kathleen Sferra, Dwight Sipler, Elizabeth Tobey, Gregor Trinkaus-Randall, Pamela Weathers

Timekeeper: Catherine Desmond

Number of Voters Checked: 152 (3% voter turnout)

Number of Registered Voters: 4,673

The amendment to the General Bylaws adopted under Article 48 was approved by the Attorney General on July 19, 2010. Posted as a Town Bulletin on October 2, 2010.

The amendments to the Zoning Bylaws adopted under Article 49 were approved by the Attorney General on June 17, 2010. Posted as a Town Bulletin on October 2, 2010.

**ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION
MAY 11, 2010**

Pursuant to the Selectmen's warrant of April 6, 2010, posted by the Constable on April 21, 2010, the Annual Town Election was held in Hale Middle School Gymnasium and was called to order at 7:00 a.m.

After examining the ballot box and finding it empty and in good order, the counter was set to zero. The ballot box was then locked and the keys delivered to the Warden who declared the polls open.

During polling hours, nineteen absentee ballots were opened, recorded and cast into the ballot box. There were five spoiled ballots. There were no provisional ballots. The polls were declared closed at 8:00 p.m. There were 715 total ballots cast. Voter turnout was 15.3%. There were 4,671 registered voters. The final results are as follows:

<u>OFFICE & LENGTH OF TERM</u>	<u>CANDIDATES</u>	<u>TOTAL VOTES</u>
Town Moderator (one - three year term)	David E. Walrath Blanks & Scatterings	605* 110
Board of Selectmen (two - three year terms)**	Leonard H. Golder Charles Kern Thomas E. Ryan, III James H. Salvie Blanks Scatterings	108 328* 313 556* 120 5
Board of Assessors (one - three year term)	Dominick Pugliese Blanks & Scatterings	514* 201
Nashoba Regional School District Committee (one - three year term)	Lynn Colletti Blanks & scatterings	530* 185
Board of Health (one- three year term)	Sylvia Daley Blanks	539* 176
Planning Board (one- five year term)	Kathleen A. Willis Blanks & Scatterings	541* 174
Trustees, Randall Library (three - three year terms)*** <i>Announced Write-in candidate</i>	Robert A. Aldape Amante Brooks Gaines John J. O'Keefe III Terence Gilligan Blanks & Scatterings	506* 497* 15* 12 1115

Note:

* *elected*

** *The total number of votes in the 'vote for two race will be two times the number of ballots cast.*

****The total number of votes in the 'vote for three' race will be three times the number of ballots cast.*

<u>OFFICE & LENGTH OF TERM</u>	<u>CANDIDATES</u>	<u>TOTAL VOTES</u>
Stow Housing Authority (one - five year term)	Sean Duane Osborne	508*
	Blanks & scatterings	207
Stow Housing Authority (one - unexpired 5 year term - expires 2012)	Blanks	694
	Manuel Afonso	2 (tie)
	Jones, Greg	2 (tie)
<i>Tie - Failure to elect- vacancy exists</i>	Scatterings (one vote each)	17

Note:

* *elected*

** *The total number of votes in the 'vote for two race will be two times the number of ballots cast.*

****The total number of votes in the 'vote for three' race will be three times the number of ballots cast.*

ELECTION WORKERS

<u>Warden</u>	<u>Checkers & Ballot Counters</u>
Philip T. Detsch	Carol J. Dudley
	Elizabeth D. MacGilvra
<u>Clerk</u>	Alice L. Mortenson
Pamela G. Gjestebj	Katherine P. Ogle
	Tammy VanBuren
<u>Ballot Box</u>	Joanne C. Newman
Janet Derby	

STATE PRIMARY SEPTEMBER 14, 2010

Pursuant to the Selectmen's warrant of July 6, 2010, posted by the Constable on July 19, 2010, the State Primary was held in Hale Middle School Gymnasium and was called to order at 7:00 a.m.

After examining the ballot box and finding it empty and in good order, the counter was set to zero. The ballot box was then locked and the keys delivered to the Warden who declared the polls open.

During polling hours, thirty-one absentee ballots were opened, recorded and cast into the ballot box. There were eleven spoiled ballots. There was one provisional ballot. The polls were declared closed at 8:00 p.m. There were 421 Democratic ballots, 352 Republican ballots and zero Libertarian ballots cast into the ballot box for a total of 773 ballots cast.

Voter turnout was 16.3%. There were 4,725 registered voters. The final results are as follows:

Democratic Primary Results – September 14, 2010
Democratic Ballots Cast = 421

<u>RACE/CANDIDATES</u>	<u>TOTAL VOTES</u>	<u>RACE/CANDIDATES</u>	<u>TOTAL VOTES</u>
Governor		Representative in Congress	
Deval L. Patrick	366	Nicola S. Tsongas	376
Blanks & Scatterings	55	Blanks & Scatterings	45
Lt. Governor		Councillor	
Timothy P. Murray	354	Marilyn Petitto Devaney	179
Blanks & Scatterings	67	Corey A. Belanger	141
		Blanks & Scatterings	101
Attorney General		Senator in General. Court	
Martha Coakley	353	James B. Eldridge	364
Blanks & Scatterings	68	Blanks & Scatterings	57
Secretary of State		Representative in General Court	
William Francis Galvin	348	Kate Hogan	379
Blanks & Scatterings	73	Blanks & Scatterings	42
Treasurer		District Attorney	
Steven Grossman	276	Gerald T. Leone, Jr.	327
Stephen J. Murphy	99	Blanks & Scatterings	94
Blanks & Scatterings	46		
Auditor		Sheriff	
Suzanne M. Bump	216	James V. DiPaola	303
Guy William Glodis	81	Blanks & Scatterings	118
Mike Lake	75		
Blanks & Scatterings	49		

Republican Primary Results – September 14, 2010
 Republican Ballots Cast = 352

RACE/CANDIDATES	TOTAL VOTES	RACE/CANDIDATES	TOTAL VOTES
Governor		Representative in Congress	
Charles D. Baker	323	Jonathan A. Golnik	147
Blanks & Scatterings	19	Sam S. Meas	69
Write-ins		Robert L. Shapiro	35
Scott Levy	9	Thomas J.M. Weaver	89
Tim Cahill	1	Blanks & Scatterings	12
Lt. Governor		Councillor	
Richard R. Tisei	298	Blanks & Scatterings	352
Blanks	40		
Write- ins:		Senator in General Court	
Keith Davis, Holyoke	13	George M. Thompson	278
Cahill	1	Blanks & Scatterings	74
Attorney General		Representative in General Court	
Guy Carbone	26	Blanks & Scatterings	352
James P. McKenna	63		
Blanks & Scatterings	263	District Attorney	
Secretary of State		Guy Carbone	4
William C. Campbell	292	James McKenna	3
Blanks & Scatterings	60	Blanks & Scatterings	345
Treasurer		Auditor	
Karyn E. Polito	295	Mary Z. Connaughton	279
Blanks & Scatterings	57	Kamal Jain	42
		Blanks & Scatterings	31
		Sheriff	
		Blanks	349
		Scatterings	3

Libertarian Primary Results – September 14, 2010

Zero ballots were cast in this Primary

RACE/CANDIDATES	TOTAL VOTES	RACE/CANDIDATES	TOTAL VOTES
Governor	0	Representative in Congress	0
Lt. Governor	0	Councillor	0
Attorney General	0	Senator in General Court	0
Secretary of State	0	Representative in General Court	0
Treasurer	0	District Attorney	0
Auditor	0	Sheriff	0

ELECTION WORKERS – STATE PRIMARY

<u>Warden</u>	<u>Clerk</u>	<u>Checkers & Ballot Counters</u>	
Philip T. Detsch	Pamela G. Gjestebly	Josephine C. Crowell	Joanne C. Newman
		Ann L. Deluty	Diane L. Parker
<u>Deputy Warden</u>	<u>Ballot Box</u>	Elizabeth D. MacGilvra	Betty Sauta
Edward R. Perry, Jr.	Janet Derby	Alice L. Mortenson	Tammy VanBuren

**STATE ELECTION
NOVEMBER 2, 2010**

Pursuant to the Selectmen's warrant of September 28, 2010, posted by the Constable on October 2, 2010, the State Election was held in Hale Middle School Gymnasium and was called to order at 7:00 a.m. The Special Town Election to fill a vacancy on the Board of Selectmen was also held on November 2nd. Information regarding the Special Town Election follows the report of the State Election.

After examining the ballot box and finding it empty and in good order, the counter was set to zero. The ballot box was then locked and the keys delivered to the Warden who declared the polls open.

During polling hours, 203 absentee ballots were opened, recorded and cast into the ballot box. There were twenty-eight spoiled ballots. There were four provisional ballots. The polls were declared closed at 8:00 p.m. A total of 3377 ballots cast on election night. Voter turnout was 70.78%. There were 4,771 registered voters.

On November 12th, the Board of Registrars of Voters met in a properly noticed public meeting and opened the State Election ballots from eight Specially Qualified Voters (US citizens living overseas or military whose last place of residence was Stow and are entitled to vote in elections). The results were added to the election night totals and the Final Totals are listed below.

Final number of votes cast in the November State Election was 3385. (70.9% turnout)

RACE/CANDIDATES	Election Night Overseas Ballots		Official Total
	Total	11/12/10	
Governor & Lieutenant Governor			
Blank	20	-	20
Patrick and Murray	1619	6	1625
Baker and Tisei	1567	2	1569
Cahill and Loscocco	138	-	138
Stein and Purcell	30	-	30
Write-In	3	-	3

STATE ELECTION - NOVEMBER 2, 2010 (continued)

RACE/CANDIDATES	Election Night Overseas Ballots		Official Total
	Total	11/12/10	
Attorney General			
Blank	69	-	69
Martha Coakley	1986	7	1993
James P McKenna	1318	1	1319
Write-In	4	-	4
Secretary of State			
Blank	109	1	110
William Francis Galvin	1862	6	1868
William C Campbell	1128	1	1129
James D Henderson	278	-	278
Write-In	0	-	0
Treasurer			
Blank	129	1	130
Steven Grossman	1636	5	1641
Karyn E Polito	1611	2	1613
Write-In	1	-	1
Auditor			
Blank	232	1	233
Suzanne M Bump	1290	4	1294
Mary Z Connaughton	1688	2	1690
Nathaniel Alexander Fortune	165	1	166
Write-In	2	-	2
Representative in Congress Fifth District			
Blank	63	7	70
Nicola S Tsongas	1873	1	1874
Jonathan A Golnik	1368	-	1368
Dale E Brown	37	-	37
Robert M Clark	36	-	36
Write-In	0	-	0
Councillor Third District			
Blank	459	1	460
Marilyn M Petitto Devaney	1591	6	1597
Nicholas A Iannuzzi	1326	1	1327
Write-In	1	-	1
Senator in General Court Middlesex & Worcester District			
Blank	199	1	200
James B Eldridge	1891	6	1897
George M Thompson	1286	1	1287
Write-In	1	-	1

STATE ELECTION - NOVEMBER 2, 2010 (continued)

RACE/CANDIDATES	Election Night Overseas Ballots		Official Total
	Total	11/12/10	
Representative in General Court Third Middlesex District			
Blank	174	2	176
Kate Hogan	2217	5	2222
Chuck S Kuniewich, Jr.	984	1	985
Write-In	2	-	2
District Attorney			
Blank	1034	2	1036
Gerard T Leone Jr.	2311	6	2317
Write-In	32	-	32
Sheriff			
Blank	619	1	620
James V DiPaola	1878	6	1884
Michael S Tranchita Sr.	873	1	874
Write-In	7	-	7

QUESTION 1: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Tax on Alcohol

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives before May 4, 2010?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would remove the Massachusetts sales tax on alcoholic beverages and alcohol, where the sale of such beverages and alcohol or their importation into the state is already subject to a separate excise tax under state law. The proposed law would take effect on January 1, 2011.

A YES VOTE would remove the state sales tax on alcoholic beverages and alcohol where their sale or importation into the state is subject to an excise tax under state law.

A NO VOTE would make no change in the state sales tax on alcoholic beverages and alcohol.

Results	Election Night	Overseas Ballots	Official Total
	Total	11/12/10	
Yes	1763	3	1766
No	1561	3	1564
Blank	53	2	55

QUESTION 2: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Repeal 40B

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives before May 4, 2010?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would repeal an existing state law that allows a qualified organization wishing to build government-subsidized housing that includes low- or moderate-income units to apply for a single comprehensive permit from a city or town's zoning board of appeals (ZBA), instead of separate permits from each local agency or official having jurisdiction over any aspect of the proposed housing. The repeal would take effect on January 1, 2011, but would not stop or otherwise affect any proposed housing that had already received both a comprehensive permit and a building permit for at least one unit.

Under the existing law, the ZBA holds a public hearing on the application and considers the recommendations of local agencies and officials. The ZBA may grant a comprehensive permit that may include conditions or requirements concerning the height, site plan, size, shape, or building materials of the housing. Persons aggrieved by the ZBA's decision to grant a permit may appeal it to a court. If the ZBA denies the permit or grants it with conditions or requirements that make the housing uneconomic to build or to operate, the applicant may appeal to the state Housing Appeals Committee (HAC).

After a hearing, if the HAC rules that the ZBA's denial of a comprehensive permit was unreasonable and not consistent with local needs, the HAC orders the ZBA to issue the permit. If the HAC rules that the ZBA's decision issuing a comprehensive permit with conditions or requirements made the housing uneconomic to build or operate and was not consistent with local needs, the HAC orders the ZBA to modify or remove any such condition or requirement so as to make the proposal no longer uneconomic. The HAC cannot order the ZBA to issue any permit that would allow the housing to fall below minimum safety standards or site plan requirements. If the HAC rules that the ZBA's action was consistent with local needs, the HAC must uphold it even if it made the housing uneconomic. The HAC's decision is subject to review in the courts.

A condition or requirement makes housing "uneconomic" if it would prevent a public agency or non-profit organization from building or operating the housing except at a financial loss, or it would prevent a limited dividend organization from building or operating the housing without a reasonable return on its investment.

A ZBA's decision is "consistent with local needs" if it applies requirements that are reasonable in view of the regional need for low- and moderate-income housing and the number of low-income persons in the city or town, as well as the need to protect health and safety, promote better site and building design, and preserve open space, if those requirements are applied as equally as possible to both subsidized and unsubsidized housing. Requirements are considered "consistent with local needs" if more than 10% of the city or town's housing units are low- or moderate-income units or if such units are on sites making up at least 1.5% of the total private land zoned for residential, commercial, or industrial use in the city or town. Requirements are also considered "consistent with local needs" if the application would result, in any one calendar year, in beginning construction of low- or moderate-income housing on sites making up more than 0.3% of the total private land zoned for residential, commercial, or industrial use in the city or town, or on ten acres, whichever is larger.

The proposed law states that if any of its parts were declared invalid, the other parts would stay in effect.

A YES VOTE would repeal the state law allowing the issuance of a single comprehensive permit to build housing that includes low- or moderate-income units.

A NO VOTE would make no change in the state law allowing issuance of such a comprehensive permit.

Results	Election Night	Overseas Ballots	Official
	Total	11/12/10	Total
Yes	1603	2	1605
No	1609	6	1615
Blank	165	-	165

QUESTION 3: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Lower state sales tax to 3%

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives before May 4, 2010?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would reduce the state sales and use tax rates (which were 6.25% as of September 2009) to 3% as of January 1, 2011. It would make the same reduction in the rate used to determine the amount to be deposited with the state Commissioner of Revenue by non-resident building contractors as security for the payment of sales and use tax on tangible personal property used in carrying out their contracts.

The proposed law provides that if the 3% rates would not produce enough revenues to satisfy any lawful pledge of sales and use tax revenues in connection with any bond, note, or other contractual obligation, then the rates would instead be reduced to the lowest level allowed by law.

The proposed law would not affect the collection of moneys due the Commonwealth for sales, storage, use or other consumption of tangible personal property or services occurring before January 1, 2011.

The proposed law states that if any of its parts were declared invalid, the other parts would stay in effect.

A YES VOTE would reduce the state sales and use tax rates to 3%.

A NO VOTE would make no change in the state sales and use tax rates.

Results	Election Night	Overseas Ballots	Official
	Total	11/12/10	Total
Yes	1479	3	1482
No	1866	5	1871
Blank	32	-	32

QUESTION 4: THIS QUESTION IS NOT BINDING

Marijuana

Shall the state representative from this district be instructed to vote in favor of legislation that would allow the state to regulate the taxation, cultivation, and sale of marijuana to adults?

Results	Election Night	Overseas Ballots	Official
	Total	11/12/10	Total
Yes	1686	6	1692
No	1398	1	1399
Blank	293	1	294

**SPECIAL TOWN ELECTION
NOVEMBER 2, 2010**

(Held concurrently with the State Election)

Pursuant to the Selectmen's warrant of September 28, 2010, posted by the Constable on October 2, 2010, the Special Town Election was held in Hale Middle School Gymnasium and was called to order at 7:00 a.m. The purpose of this Special Town Election was to fill a vacancy on the Board of Selectman with a term expiring May 2012. The election was held concurrently with the State Election, but required separate voter check-in/check-out and a separate ballot. The number of ballots cast differs between the two elections because some voters only voted in the State Election and did not vote in the Special Town Election.

After examining the ballot box and finding it empty and in good order, the counter was set to zero. The ballot box was then locked and the keys delivered to the Warden who declared the polls open.

During polling hours, 193 absentee ballots were opened, recorded and cast into the ballot box. There were three spoiled ballots. There were no provisional ballots. The polls were declared closed at 8:00 p.m. There were a total of 3,361 ballots cast. There were 4,771 registered voters and voter turnout was 70.45%.

On November 12th, the Board of Registrars of Voters met in a properly noticed public meeting and opened the special town election ballots from two Specially Qualified Voters (US citizens living overseas or military whose last place of residence was Stow and are entitled to vote in elections). Final total ballots cast 3,363. The results were added to the election night totals and the Final Totals are listed below.

Selectman - to fill an unexpired term -2012	Election Night	Overseas Ballots	Official
	Total	11/12/10	Total
Thomas E. Ryan, III	2784	2	2786
Blanks	441	-	441
Write-ins	136	-	136

ELECTION WORKERS FOR BOTH NOVEMBER 2ND STATE AND SPECIAL TOWN ELECTIONS

<u>Warden</u>	<u>Checkers & Ballot Counters</u>	<u>Greeters/Floaters</u>
Philip T. Detsch	Martha E. Bonn	Marjorie A. Alessio
	Josephine C. Crowell	Alice C. Cushing
<u>Deputy Warden</u>	Mary E. Cutler	Robert J. Cutler
Edward R. Perry, Jr.	Ann L. Deluty	Mary R. LaPalme
	Carol J. Dudley	Martin F. Owens
<u>Clerk</u>	Lisa R. Lavina	Susan Y. Pauley
Pamela G. Gjestebj	Ann F. Luxner	Gerard K. Quinn
	Elizabeth D. MacGilvra	Robert E. Walrath
<u>Ballot Box</u>	Alice L. Mortenson	Barbara K. Wolfenden
Janet Derby	Joanne C. Newman	
	Kathleen C. O'Brien	<u>AutoMark Machine</u>
	Katherine P. Ogle	Katy Tattersall
	Betty Sauta	
	Ellen S. Sturgis	
	Tammy Van Buren	

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
NOVEMBER 8, 2010**

Pursuant to the Selectmen's warrant of September 28, 2010, posted by the Constable on October 25, 2010, the Special Town Meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. in Hugh Mill Auditorium at Hale School by Moderator David Walrath.

Mr. Walrath reviewed certain town meeting protocols. The meeting rose for a moment of silence followed by an invocation recited by the Moderator who then led the gathering in the *Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag*.

Mr. Walrath nominated Gary Horowitz to serve as Temporary Deputy Moderator. The vote was unanimous in favor. He then announced his appointment of Elizabeth Painter as Assistant Moderator. Both were sworn by the Town Clerk.

Town officials were introduced: Selectmen, Town Administrator, Town Counsel, Selectmen's Administrative Assistant, Town Clerk, Assistant Town Clerk, Finance Committee, Capital Planning Committee, Community Preservation Committee, Planning Board, and Conservation Commission. Several non-voters who may be heard during the course of the meeting were approved.

On motion of Selectman Thomas Ryan, it was voted unanimously that the reading of the warrant and return of the Constable thereon be waived but made a part of the record of the meeting, and that the Moderator be permitted to refer to each article by subject matter instead of reading each article in its entirety.

On motion of Selectman Ryan, it was voted unanimously that no new article, or any section thereof, be considered after ten-thirty p.m., and that as soon as practicable after ten-thirty the meeting be adjourned to 7:00 p.m., November 9, 2010 in this place.

ARTICLE 1. Acceptance of Anticipated Emergency Legislation from General Court

On motion of Selectman Laura Spear, it was voted in excess a two-thirds majority that the sum of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) is appropriated to pay costs of providing financial and technical assistance to customers of the Assabet Water Company within the Town of Stow, as recently authorized by Chapter 359, Section 128 of the Acts of 2010, which was enacted by the General Court to permit the Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust (the "Trust"), in concert with the Town, to assist these customers in obtaining potable water and authorized, among other things, said customers to apply for low interest loans to aid in the permitting, construction and operation of drinking water wells and/or the reimbursement of expenditures made in the permitting, construction and operation of drinking water wells, and including but not limited to funds for the costs of wells and treatment and storage facilities and distribution pipes associated therewith; and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said amount through the Trust in accordance with Chapter 111, Section 127B½ and Chapter 29C of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor. Betterments shall be assessed upon the properties of homeowners that obtain loans for this purpose in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 111, Section 127B½ of the General Laws as aforesaid. The Town is hereby authorized to enter into one or more loan agreements with the Trust and one or more project regulatory agreements with the Department of Environmental Protection as may be necessary to obtain funds from the Trust to be used to make the low interest loans described above. The Town, acting through the Board of Selectmen, is also authorized to execute and deliver all other contracts, agreements or certificates as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this vote.

Selectmen Chair Laura Spear explained that a positive vote will enable residents of the Harvard Acres subdivision to obtain potable drinking water. Assabet Water Company operating within the development will soon file for bankruptcy, as there is no entity willing to take over the existing water system. The special legislation was made possible through the efforts of State Representative Kate Hogan and State Senator James Eldridge to provide loans for well drilling at a low interest rate. The loan from the Trust to the Town is at zero interest for a twenty-year term. The average cost for a well and associated costs is \$10,000, and it is expected that 60% of those residents may apply for a loan with a ten-year term. A loan will be represented by a lien on the property. Repayment will be accomplished through the quarterly real estate tax billings. The 2% interest applied to the loans is intended to cover the Town's administrative costs. A loan will be available to any homeowner who dug a well after May 2010. The loan program will be administered by the Board of Health through the Town Administrator.

Jamie Monat, chair of the Harvard Acres Water Board, spoke in favor of the article as a method of providing funding to those who do not have the means to afford the expense.

The Finance Committee was in favor of the article.

Temporary Deputy Moderator Gary Horowitz assumed the gavel for the following article.

ARTICLE 2. Transfer and Authorization of Deer Field Lane Parcel

On motion of Selectman James Salvie, it was voted in excess of a two-thirds majority, as amended, pursuant to Mass. General Laws Chapter 40, Section 15A and other applicable law, to authorize a portion of the real property currently under the care, custody and control of the Board of Selectmen for use as open space and recreational purposes and located at Deer Field Lane, Stow, Massachusetts, Assessors' Parcel ID U11/039C-1, said real property consisting of 13.45 acres, more or less, be used in conjunction with the development of a public water supply, including, but not limited to, authorizing the Board of Selectmen to enter into a long or short term lease of all or a portion of said parcel for the purposes of development of a public water supply and including the grant of approval to construct and install all surface and subsurface infrastructure and equipment necessary for the development of a public water supply, such plans and programs for the development of the public water supply and/or lease of said land for the purposes of developing a public water supply to be determined and carried out by the Board of Selectmen; and further, that the Board of Selectmen are empowered to take any steps required by law to obtain approval for the use of said real property for the above described purposes, provided however, that prior to commencing any of the activities or actions described above, the Board of Selectmen or their designee shall file a petition with and receive approval from the General Court or other agency of the Commonwealth pursuant to guidelines, if any, established by the Commonwealth to modify the terms of the conservation restriction running with said parcel and/or the restrictions imposed by operation of Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution to provide for the uses authorized by this motion.

The Finance Committee was in favor of the article.

Selectman Laura Spear reported that attempts have been made to obtain a water supply for the Lower Village. Several business owners are unable to expand or make improvements because of lot limitations and DEP regulations. The subject parcel may be the most feasible source. The intent is not to develop a municipal water supply, but rather a public water supply defined by one that services fifteen or more locations. Several steps are required before this parcel could become a potential water supply. An amendment of the existing conservation restriction is to be filed by the Conservation Commission to the State. A public hearing before the Planning Board is to be held to amend the special permit for its subdivision approval of the Deer Field Lane development. Thereafter a home rule petition is to be approved by the legislature.

In response to a question about how long the process may take, Town Administrator responded the matter could appear on the May Annual Town Meeting warrant if a potential operator came forward. The Conservation Commission had voted unanimously to amend the conservation restriction and felt the proposed use was compatible with the conservation value of the property. It is anticipated that the existing trails would be maintained.

Ernest Dodd moved to amend the original motion to omit authorizing the Selectmen to "sell or" enter into a long or short term lease or for the "sale" of said land. Discussion ensued. The Finance Committee was not in favor of the amendment. Comment was made that a sale with conditions could be negotiated. When put to a vote, the motion to amend was carried by majority.

Discussion on the main motion, as amended, continued. Town Administrator stressed that a positive vote authorizes the Town to negotiate a lease to a private water company. The Town could become a customer, but not an owner. The vote is only to allow the initial process to go forward.

At 8:48 p.m. there was a call for the question. When put to a vote, the motion, as amended, carried in excess of a two-thirds majority.

Moderator David Walrath returned to the lectern for the remainder of the meeting.

ARTICLE 3. Engineering Design Funds for Assabet River Rail Trail on Track Road

On motion of Selectman Stephen Dungan, it was voted unanimously to approve the expenditure of and appropriate and transfer the sum of \$46,000.00 for the Town's share of the cost to design to requirements specified by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation and those imposed by the Stow Board of Selectmen, if any, on a regional basis with the towns of Maynard and Acton, with Acton managing the program, a portion of the Assabet River Rail Trail from the Stow/Maynard town line to Sudbury Road, said monies to be transferred from the Open Space and Recreation Community Preservation Fund balance.

The Finance Committee was not in favor of the article as it was felt there were many unanswered questions.

Donald Rising, as representative to the Assabet River Rail Trail Committee said that this portion is 1.9 miles long from Sudbury Road to White Pond Road on the former railroad bed. The requested funds will begin the \$230,000 design phase. The amount in the article represents Stow's 20% share.

Robert Wilber, chairman of the Community Preservation Committee, reported the committee voted to approve the transfer of funds for this purpose. It was noted the Town has already expended funds to purchase an easement on the property.

Report of the Community Preservation Committee: On September 27, 2010 the Community Preservation Committee voted unanimously to place article 3 on the warrant. On November 1, 2010 the committee voted unanimously to increase the amount from \$45,000 to \$46,000 and recommend the amendment to special town meeting.

ARTICLE 4. Change in Hours for Service of Alcohol in Restaurants

On motion of Selectman Charles Kern, it was voted in excess of a two-thirds majority to accept the provisions of Section 33B of Chapter 138 of the Massachusetts General Laws to allow the Board of Selectmen (Local Licensing Authority) to expand the hours when restaurant liquor license holders may sell alcoholic beverages.

Mass. General Laws Chapter 138, Section 33B

The local licensing authority of any city or town which accept this section may authorize licensees under section twelve to sell alcoholic beverages between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon on Sundays, the last Monday in May and on Christmas day or on the day following when said day occurs on Sunday.

The meeting was dissolved at 9:22 p.m.

Checkers at the Door: Carol Dudley, Elizabeth MacGilvra, Alice Mortensen, and Betty Sauta

Tellers: were not needed to assist the Moderator.

Timekeeper: Catherine Desmond

Number of Voters Checked: 284 (6% turnout)

Number of Registered Voters: 4775

A true copy: Attest: Linda E. Hathaway,
Town Clerk of Stow

TOWN OF STOW

*County of Middlesex
Commonwealth of Massachusetts*



Established as the Plantation of Pompositicut, 1669

Incorporated as a Town, May 16, 1683



Land area given to seven surrounding towns



Area today 17.94 Square Miles

11,311.4 Acres Land; 167 Acres Water

11,478.4 Acres Total



Longitude:71⁰ Latitude:42⁰:26'

Altitude (above sea level) at Town Hall: 231 feet



Population per 2010 Federal Census: 6590

Population per 2010 Stow Census: 6,759

TOWN DEPARTMENT TELEPHONES

Emergency: Ambulance, Fire / Rescue, Police DIAL 911

Animal Control Officer	978-897-2784
Assessors, Board of.	978-897-4597
Building Department and Inspectors	978-897-2193
Cemetery Committee.	978-461-1403
Conservation Commission	978-897-8615
Council on Aging	978-897-1880
Fire / Rescue Department business	978-897-4537
Health, Board of.	978-897-4592
Highway Department	978-897-8071
Inspectors: Gas, Plumbing, Wiring	978-897-2193
Minuteman Regional High School	781-861-6500
Nashoba Regional School District	978-779-0539
Center School	978-897-0290
Hale Middle School	978-897-4788
Nashoba Regional High School	978-779-2257
Pompositticut School	978-897-5774
Planning Board	978-897-5098
Police Department business	978-897-4545
Randall Library	978-897-8572
Recreation Commission	978-461-1411
Selectmen, Board of	978-897-4515
Stow TV Office	978-897-7732
Town Accountant	978-897-5012
Town Administrator	978-897-2927
Town Clerk	978-897-4514 x1
Treasurer-Collector	978-897-2834
Tree Warden	978-897-8071
Veterans' Services Officer	978-793-9353

Mailing Address: 380 Great Rd., Stow, MA 01775-2127

Website: www.stow-ma.gov

COMMITTEE MEETINGS CALENDAR

Agricultural Commission	As needed
Ancient Documents Committee	First & third Fridays, 10 a.m., Nov-Jun
Assabet River Rail Trail Committee	As needed
Assessors, Board of	Monthly, date varies
Cable License Advisory Committee	As needed
Capital Planning Committee	As needed
Cemetery Committee	Third Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall
Community Preservation Committee	Second & fourth Mondays, 7:30 p.m.
Conservation Commission	First & third Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.
Council on Aging	Second Thursday, 9:00 a.m.
Cultural Council	As needed
Elementary School Building Committee	Monday, at least twice a month, 7:00 p.m.
Finance Committee	Second & fourth Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.
Historical Commission	First Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall
Health, Board of	Monthly, date varies
Housing Authority	As needed
Lake Boon Commission	As needed
Local Access Cable Advisory Committee	Monthly, date varies
Master Plan Committee	Monthly, date varies
Medical Reserve Corps	As needed
Minuteman Regional School Committee	Third Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Lexington
Municipal Affordable Housing Trust	First & third Mondays, 7 p.m.
Nashoba Regional School Committee	First & third Thursdays, 6 p.m., Bolton
Open Space Committee	As needed
Planning Board	Every Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.
Randall Library Trustees	Fourth Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., Library
Recreation Commission	Monthly at 6:30 p.m., date varies
Selectmen, Board of	Second & fourth Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m.
Zoning Board of Appeals	First Monday, 7:30 p.m.

Meetings held at Town Building unless otherwise noted. This calendar is for reference only. Official meeting notices are posted on the town bulletin board at Town Building and with the Town Clerk.